

GOP budget plan would revamp Medicare, Medicaid

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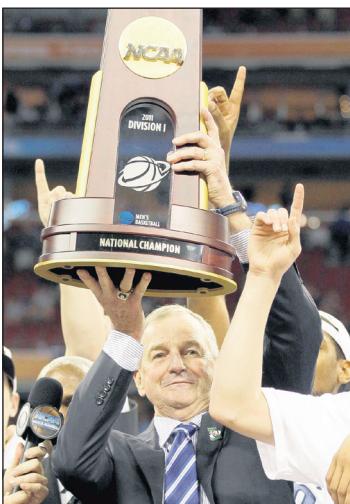
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Wednesday, April 6, 2011

INSIDE TODAY

SPORTS NEWS

HUSKIES WIN AGAIN



Connecticut head coach Jim Calhoun holds the championship trophy after his team won the men's NCAA Final Four college basketball championship game against Butler 53-41 Monday, April 4, 2011, in Houston.

See Aruba Today Sports

Happy 112th Florida's oldest Celebrates bday

By PIPER CASTILLO

© 2010 St. Petersburg Times
CLEARWATER - Her sky blue eyes light up when visitors arrive.

And although her hearing isn't what it used to be, when one of her favorite songs comes on the stereo, she'll use her kitchen table as her piano and play along.

Not bad for the oldest person in Florida. On Tuesday, Elsie Thompson celebrated her 112th birthday with 20 friends and neighbors at her Clearwater condominium.

Thompson is the 10th oldest American and the 33rd oldest human being on Earth, researchers say. She's the only person left in Florida who was born in the 19th century.

Continued on page 2

The Clash



Political turmoil surrounding Yemen's embattled president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, has brought counterterrorism operations in Yemen to a halt, allowing al-Qaida's deadliest branch outside of Pakistan to operate more freely inside the country.

(Bryan Denton/The New York Times)

In Yemen

Gunfire erupts during new clashes

By LAURA KASINOF

© 2011 New York Times
SANAA, Yemen — Security forces and armed men in civilian clothes clashed with anti-government demonstrators in the city of Taiz on Tuesday, opening fire on crowds calling for President Ali Abdullah Saleh to step down, witnesses said. It was the third straight day of violence in Taiz, where more than 10 protesters were killed by gunfire on Monday. Boshra al-Maqtari, one of the protest leaders, said that at least 20 people were wounded by gunfire on Tuesday, but that there had been no deaths. The clashes began in roughly the same area of the city where the protesters were

killed on Monday, the deadliest day so far in six weeks of demonstrations demanding the immediate ouster of Saleh. Gunfire also erupted in Sanaa, the capital, near the headquarters of Maj. Gen. Ali Mohsin al-Ahmar, a top military leader who broke with Saleh last month to support the antigovernment demonstrators.

Witnesses described an exchange of fire between al-Ahmar's soldiers and armed government supporters, some of whom fired from their cars. The official Saba news agency said that the gunfire came only from al-Ahmar's soldiers and that they opened fire on a peaceful march of pro-government tribesmen, killing three

and wounding at least 15. But a spokesman for al-Ahmar said in a statement that his soldiers moved to prevent the Saleh supporters from breaking into the general's headquarters; the statement did not acknowledge any gunfire by the general's soldiers.

The Obama administration inched closer on Tuesday to a break with Saleh, its longtime ally.

In a statement Tuesday night, the White House press secretary, Jay Carney, said the United States "strongly condemns the use of violence by Yemeni government forces against demonstrators in Sana, Taiz and Hodeida in the past several days." □

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L.G. SMITH BLVD. # 150

Continued from Front Page



Elsie Thompson holds a birthday gift from her son. She is the only person in the bay area who was born in the 19th century.

On Tuesday, in a pink suit with a corsage of mini roses pinned to her jacket, Thompson sat in her living room and clapped and nodded as her guests sang Happy Birthday.

When someone asked to take her picture, Thompson smiled and waved at the camera. "Hello, how are you?" she said.

Born on April 5, 1899, during the William McKinley administration, she's one of only 90 verified "supercentenarians," people who are 110 or older.

Thompson is aided by four caregivers who take turns providing around-the-clock support, but she still lives in the same unit at Imperial Cove Condominiums that she and her late husband bought more than 40 years ago.

Most people her age live in a nursing facility, said Dr. Stephen Coles, a UCLA gerontologist who maintains a list of the world's oldest

people.

"It is unusual for a 112-year-old, even with caregivers, to not be in a nursing home," said Coles, who runs the Gerontology Research Group. "Although she is not unique, we don't see it often."

Supercentenarians are a hard group to join. Although nearly seven people per thousand live to be 100, only one in 4 million cracks the 110-year barrier. Almost all are women. So what does Thompson think about her 112th birthday?

"It is wonderful," she said. "Isn't it just amazing?"

Thompson was born in Beaver Falls, Pa., and grew up in Pittsburgh.

In 1921, she married Ron Thompson, a veteran of both World Wars.

During World War II, she ran his business, which refined used gold. After the war, her husband served 22 years in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. □

HUMOR STALLED



A man wears a hat with the colors of the Egyptian flag during a demonstration following Friday prayers at Tahrir Square in Cairo. The sudden turn from humor points to a sense of revolution fatigue that has swept over a nation where people had hoped for overnight change.

(Andrea Bruce/The New York Times)

In Egypt

Unfunny punch line in post-revolution

By MICHAEL SLACKMAN

© 2011 New York Times

CAIRO — The jokes have stalled, another sign that Egypt's revolution has too. For centuries, Egyptians have turned to humor, often dressed up in dark sarcasm, as a tonic for a battered soul. But even that seemingly genetic predisposition to mock what ails them started to wear thin after nearly three decades of stagnation under Hosni Mubarak.

And then came the Tahrir Square revolution, a virtual force of nature that unleashed the ambitions and anger of millions, ousted an entrenched autocrat and inspired a resurgence of that famously biting Egyptian wit.

It was in the placards, the slogans, the banners and the antics; it was passed along through the Internet, text messaging and even local newspapers.

"A lot of people think the humor went down three or four years ago, when people got depressed, and that it resurfaced in Tahrir Square," said Isandr Amrani, a popular blogger and independent journalist in Egypt.

There were placards: "Go, because I need to study," and "I'm a dentist here to uproot Mubarak." And historical observations: "Nasser was

killed by poison, Sadat by a bullet and Mubarak by Facebook."

But now that moment has passed, damped by the recognition that for many people life today is even harder than before, especially for the poor and for those who survive on tourism — like the army of taxi drivers who are forced to battle ever worsening traffic for ever fewer passengers.

"No one is joking," said Mohamed Saleh Mohamed, as he navigated a taxi through downtown Cairo's congested streets recently. "There is no happiness, no work. The country is a mess."

The sudden turn from humor points to a sense of revolution fatigue that has swept over a nation where people had hoped for overnight change only to awaken to the myriad challenges facing them.

Many people here say that no one has given up, not yet anyway, they are just catching their breath and recalibrating to the changing realities of post-revolutionary Egypt.

"This victory has not achieved its goals," said Hassan Naffa, a political science professor at Cairo University. "There is some depression, and in these gray stages there is no clear idea about what should be done. There is division,

there are expectations, there is waiting."

The glow of people power that toppled the president has not vanished, but it has dimmed. After 30 years of predictable discomfort, the public is not accustomed to so much uncertainty.

There are signs of increased sectarian tensions. The economy is in deep trouble. The crime rate is rising. The military is suddenly not looking like such a good guy any longer, accused of using beatings, torture and military tribunals to silence critics. And there are far too many reminders of the past, like the state security apparatus that, though renamed, is effectively functioning as before with mostly the same personnel.

"We're still not heading in the right direction," said Karim el-Borollosy, 52, a businessman who joined the demonstrations in Tahrir Square. "The head of the regime is gone, but the old regime was so entrenched in every aspect of life, it did not disappear."

There was a renewed sense of national purpose in the heady days of revolution, a unity regardless of religion or class among those massing in the square. In those 18 days, humor and sarcasm played a crucial role in coping and conquering. □

ECONOMY

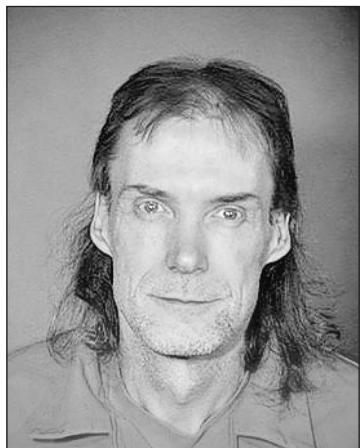
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Supreme Court temporarily blocks Arizona execution



Daniel Wayne Cook

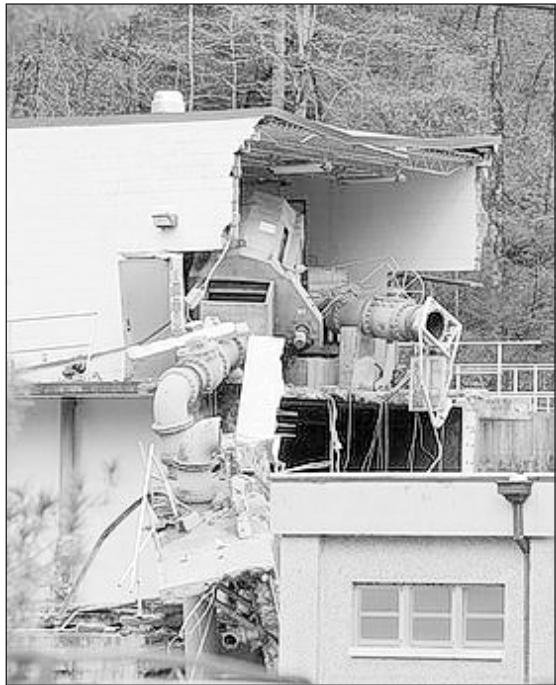
PHOENIX – The Supreme Court has granted a stay of execution for a convicted killer in Arizona who was due to die by lethal injection on Tuesday, but the inmate could still be executed this week if the court rejects a petition from his lawyers. Daniel Wayne Cook, 49, was convicted in 1988 of first degree murder for the killings of Carlos Froyan Cruz-Ramos and Kevin Swaney, together with an accomplice, John

Matzke.

He was due to be executed by lethal injection at the state prison in Florence, southeast of Phoenix, at 10 a.m. Tuesday, but the execution was canceled after the U.S. Supreme Court granted a stay on Monday, the Arizona Department of Corrections said in a statement. The stay came in response to a petition arguing Cook did not have effective legal representation during his trial or appeals process, according to documents filed with the U.S. Supreme Court. The state's death warrant is valid for 24 hours. If the U.S. Supreme Court rejects the petition, Cook could still be executed on Tuesday, Arizona Supreme Court spokeswoman Jennifer Liewer said. However, if the execution is not carried out before a new date will have to be set, Liewer said. □

In Tennessee plant

2 missing in huge sewage spill



Damage caused by the collapse of a basin wall holding untreated sewage is seen in Gatlinburg, Tenn. Two workers were missing after the wastewater treatment plant failed and spilled over a million gallons of sewage.

By BILL POOVEY

Associated Press

GATLINBURG, Tenn. – A holding tank at a sewage treatment plant in a Smoky Mountains tourist town gave way early Tuesday, leaving two workers missing and sewage flowing into a small river.

The spill into the Little Pigeon River is a mix

of storm and sewage water without solid waste, said Tisha Calabrese-Benton, a spokeswoman for the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. She said the failure occurred in an equalization basin, a large tank that is used during times of heavy rain to regulate the amount of water going into the treatment plant. "Right now, the plant is bypassing, which means sewage is being discharged directly into the river," Calabrese-Benton said Tuesday. The size of the spill had not been determined but officials with the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency estimated it was between 1.5 and 3.2 million gallons. The Mountain Press newspaper reported that the basin is 70 feet wide, 40 feet tall and has reinforced concrete walls that are 12 inches thick. Photos show a blown-out wall of the structure. A statement from the city of Gatlinburg said there was a mudslide about a mile from the facility around 1 a.m., several hours before the collapse at the plant. Officials said the exact cause of the collapse was not yet determined. "No one knows what happened, really. It's all guesswork right now," said Jim Davis, spokesman for the city of Gatlinburg. A search-and-rescue mission is under way for the two missing workers, according to a statement from Chicago-based Veolia Water, the plant operator. City officials declined to identify the workers, but their families were on the scene. □

1,000-year-old Native carving

Man charged for scrawling



1000 years old carvin "Descending Sheep Panel"

By David Schwartz

Associated Press

PHOENIX – A North Carolina man was sentenced to 60 months probation by a federal judge for scrawling his name on an Arizona carving that is at least 1,000 years-old, U.S. authorities said on Tuesday. U.S. District Judge Neil Wake also ordered Trenton Ganey, 29, to pay \$10,000 in restitution and perform 100 hours of community service.

Ganey was on a guided fishing trip in June 2010, when his group stopped at a beach near a petroglyph called "Descending Sheep Panel" on a canyon wall along the Colorado River. A petroglyph is an inscription or carving.

He took a rock and carved

"TRENT" onto the petroglyph.

The petroglyph and similar works of rock art are considered a part of Native American's cultural heritage in Arizona.

"This prosecution should serve as a lesson to others who would damage, destroy or disturb Arizona's precious cultural resources," Dennis Burke, U.S. Attorney in Arizona, said in a statement.

"This office will diligently investigate and fully prosecute these crimes for the benefit of generations to come and for the Native people of Arizona who trace their ancestry back to those who created these cultural treasures," he said. □



Appetizer

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- Onion Soup
- Conch Fritters
- Escargot
- Salad

Entrée

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Mississippi switches to new drug for executions

By Leigh Coleman
Associated Press

BILOXI, Miss. — Mississippi will switch to a different sedative drug for three executions the state is seeking to carry out in the next month, state Attorney General Jim Hood told AP on Tuesday.

The state will join several others that have substituted pentobarbital a sedative often used to euthanize animals for sodium thiopental in their execution protocols.

Sodium thiopental is in short supply in the United States after an Illinois company bowed to European Union pressure and stopped making it.

Texas, Oklahoma and Ohio already have made similar changes.

Hood had asked the state Supreme Court to schedule executions for April 20, April 27 and May 4.

The first would be Robert Simon Jr., who was sentenced to die for the 1990 killings of a couple and their 12-year-old son. □



Mississippi death row inmate Robert Simon Jr.

The attorney general also has requested execution dates for Rodney Gray, convicted of killing a 79-year-old woman in 1994, and Benny Joe Stevens, sentenced to death for the 1999 slayings of four people.

Mississippi Corrections Commissioner Chris Epps said the state has ordered the new lethal injection drug and has been rehearsing for the expected executions. □

FAA sets stringent checks of older 737s

By John Crawley

Associated Press

WASHINGTON/ATLANTA

— U.S. regulators on Tuesday ordered airlines to inspect older model Boeing Co 737 aircraft for cracks, a step prompted by a Southwest Airlines Co jet that landed with a fuselage hole.

The most urgent Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirement covers about 175 of the most heavily used planes worldwide.

Checks of those jets must be completed within five days of the airline receiving the order and repeated before they total another 500 takeoffs and landings. Eventually, the agency wants checks on more of the "classic" 737-300, 400 and 500 planes to undergo the time-consuming electromechanical metal fatigue inspections before they reach a certain number of takeoffs and landings. The inspections aim to detect cracks along joints in the fuselage that bond layers of aircraft skin which cannot be seen visually.

Paul Richter, chief project engineer for 737 "classic" at Boeing, told a media briefing on Tuesday the fatigue cracks suspected in the Southwest rupture occurred sooner than Boeing expected in the life of the plane. Boeing issued a bulletin to its operators out-



A Southwest Airlines 737-300 takes off from Bob Hope Airport in Burbank, California.

lining the inspection requirements that were narrower and less stringent than the FAA directive.

The aircraft involved in the April 1 event performed more than 39,000 takeoffs and landings, Southwest said. An industry source with knowledge of the Boeing bulletin said that total was higher than average for a plane of its age around 15 years.

Flight 812 was heading from Phoenix to Sacramento, California, when a 5-foot tear opened up 20 minutes after takeoff along the roof just above the left wing.

The most demanding part of the FAA order was based on an inspection regimen launched by Southwest after last week's incident and completed on Tuesday. □

Southwest grounded and inspected more than 70 planes over four days, discovering cracks in five that require repairs, the carrier said.

Boeing believed there was nothing about how Southwest operates planes that may have contributed to the April 1 incident, Richter said.

"It's just a statistical event far more than it has anything to do with Southwest and how they operate the airplane," Richter said.

Safety experts have questioned whether the aggressive way in which Southwest uses its planes quick turnarounds and short hops may accelerate wear. Southwest returned to a normal schedule on Tuesday after canceling more than 650 flights over the weekend and on Monday. □

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Accused “Grim Sleeper” suspect in more deaths

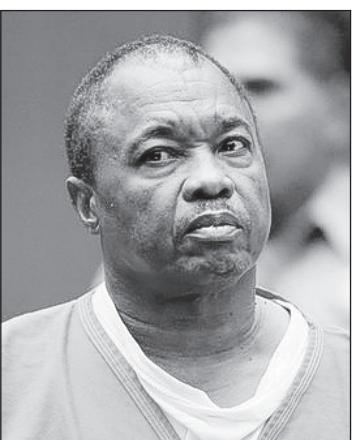
LOS ANGELES — Detectives believe they have uncovered more victims of a Los Angeles serial killer dubbed the “Grim Sleeper” who is already accused of 10 murders, police said on Tuesday.

In the latest break in the case, investigators are looking into whether Lonnie David Franklin Jr had a role in the disappearance of six missing women, the Los Angeles Police Department said in a statement.

Investigators were scheduled to offer more details on the potential victims on Tuesday afternoon.

Police also believe two more women could have been victims of Franklin, the Los Angeles Times reports.

A photo of one of the women, who is still unidentified, was found among a collection of pictures found at Franklin’s



Lonnie Franklin Jr. appears for an arraignment on multiple charges as the alleged ‘Grim Sleeper’ killer, in Los Angeles Superior Court.

home, and there is other evidence connecting her to him, detectives told the newspaper. An eighth woman was the victim of a 1988 killing with similarities to other murders Franklin is accused of committing, according to the Los Angeles Times. □

Let Preschoolers Play!

Joyce C. Tang
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Worksheets, computers—America’s hypercompetitive education system is trickling down to preschool. But growing research shows that pushing academics at an early age can backfire, writes Joyce C. Tang.

When Zachary Hammond graduated from preschool, like many other toddlers he hadn’t really developed an interest in academics quite yet. He was more into sports, playing street hockey and soccer. He could count to 50 and write his name, but he wasn’t eager to learn to read. His class time was spent with worksheets, circling words that rhymed and identifying letters of the alphabet with



Here’s a cute picture taken of one of the preschoolers

memory games. Zachary’s younger brother, Maverick, on the other hand, finished preschool a few steps ahead. His drawing abilities flourished throughout his two years of pre-K, and he was even on the cusp of writing complete sentences. By that time, Zachary was beginning to read, and Maverick couldn’t wait to learn, too. □

NY’s rat problem damaging tourism

NEW YORK— Absolutely no one likes a rat, a city official said on Tuesday, demanding \$1.5 million be restored to the budget to help control what he called Manhattan’s horrific rat problem.

Seeing vermin running amok on city streets and in subway tunnels is a turn-off for tourists, said Manhattan Borough president Scott Stringer.

“They don’t want to come here and share their vacation with a New York City rat,” Stringer told AP.

Demanding rat control money be restored to the city Health Department budget, Stringer said the cuts forced the layoff of 57 Pest Control workers. The result has been a 1.5 percent rise in complaints over

last year and damage to New York’s appeal as a tourist destination, he said.

It’s also a public safety issue. “I find this to be unacceptable because rodents are very dangerous to children and the quality of life of the city,” Stringer said.

He said the cut “makes no sense” as the city’s pest control program was collecting around \$6 million in fines each year from building owners for pest-related health violations. “Why would you make cuts to a program that actually makes money for the city?” Stringer said.

Unless the cuts are restored and the pest control force fortified, the rat control problem is only going to get worse, he



A rat peeps out from a hole to drink milk donated by Hindu devotees inside the Karni Mata temple at Deshnoke in the western Indian state of Rajasthan.

said.

City health spokeswoman Susan Craig said the layoffs have “had no impact on the agency’s ability to respond to rat complaints.” □



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Oregon thief with "good taste" nips \$2,300 cognac



A taster pours Cognac in a cellar in southwestern France

PORTLAND, Oregon— A masked, quick-moving thief smashed a liquor store window early on Monday in suburban Portland and walked off with a bottle of cognac valued at more than \$2,300. "He has good taste," said Lt. Mike Rouches a spokesman for the Hillsboro police. "He knew exactly what he was after."

The robber took the \$2,363.45

bottle of Remy Martin Louis XIII cognac, 11 fine but cheaper bottles of cognac and 12 packs of menthol cigarettes at about 3:15 a.m. local time on Monday, Rouches said. "I've not seen a theft like this. Usually they grab whatever they can," Rouches said. The police arrived quickly and the posh pilferer had already disappeared, another indication that he knew what he was after, Rouches said. Hillsboro police have surveillance tape of the masked thief and are searching for the apparently classy crook. The suspect could face charges of second-degree burglary, first-degree burglary and second-degree criminal mischief, Rouches said. □

Spending on pets up during crisis

NEW YORK — Americans may be clipping money-saving coupons and delaying buying a new home, but when it comes to their pets they're spending more than ever, according to a new survey.

Between trips to the vet, specialty foods, treats and toys, pet insurance and even parties, Americans have no compunction about opening up their wallets to keep Rex, Rover or even the house lizard healthy and happy.

Flying in the face of economic woes, between two and five percent of pet owners said they spent more on their pets last year, according to the poll by the non-profit American Pet Products Association (APPA). Americans are so concerned about their pets that 16 percent of dog owners and 13 percent of cat owners said their animal's medical treatment would take priority over their own.

"Although the economy has been a major factor for many industries, the pet industry continues to see unprecedented growth," said APPA President Bob Vetere.

"The survey reveals pet owners are willing to spend money on their pets despite a downturn in the economy."

About 73 million U.S. households, or about two-thirds of the total, have one or more pets, the survey showed, with dogs and cats accounting for about three-quarters of pets.

Animal owners cite companionship and love as their chief attributes, but dog owners increasingly mention stress relief and exercise, such as walking or jogging with them, as benefits of ownership.

Fish are also stress relievers, in addition to being fun to watch, while reptiles get points for being quiet, as well as being fun to have around. □



Angela Lloyd, who handled Hickory at this year's Westminster Dog Show is reunited with Hickory at a party in Bentonville.



Crowds gather to see the 14 democratic senators that left the state to protest the bill proposed by the Gov. Scott Walker as crowds continue to protest at the Wisconsin State Capitol in Madison, Wisconsin.

In Wisconsin

Senate approve restructuring bill

MADISON, Wisconsin — Democrats in the Wisconsin state Senate returned to the chamber for the first time in more than six weeks on Tuesday to help approve Republican Governor Scott Walker's plan to close a gap in the state budget for the current fiscal year.

Senators voted 22 to 11 to approve the bill, which includes a \$165 million debt restructuring and other fiscal elements left out of legislation approved in March that sharply curtailed the rights of many public sector workers. The anti-union measure spawned massive protests.

The bill now goes to the state Assembly, where it expected to quickly approved later Tuesday.

The Senate had its full complement for the first time since its 14 Democratic senators left the state in mid February to prevent a vote on the proposals to limit union powers by denying Republicans the necessary quorum. □

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LOCAL Aruba TODAY

Team Toppenberg/Kock is victorious!

7th Wente /Papiamento Golf event a success



NOORD - Yubi Toppenberg and Hubert Kock are the 2011 winners of the seventh edition of the Wente Vineyards/Papiamento Restaurant Golf Tournament.

They beat Cadochi Kock and Martin Woogen by just one net point in their effort to win the coveted grand prize, leaving behind the teams of Eddie Rivera and Hunt Riley as well as Nigel Nedd and Carla Schipper, who came third and fourth respectively. The grand prize everyone was rooting for, by the way, was the all-expenses paid trip to the Wente property, which includes a top restaurant and first-rate golf course surrounded by vineyards.

The tournament, which had been organized by representative of Wente Wines Arion Wine Company, was in a two-men scramble format. This meant that each player would play a tee-shot and afterwards the team

would select the best positioned ball for the next shot. At holes 3 and 13 there was the chance for personal glory as Closest to the Pin winner. Participants to the tournament received a super golf cap at registration, a bottle of Wente wine to keep them going throughout the day and an Indian-style bagged lunch courtesy of Papiamento Restaurant. Quite a few golfers still seemed a bit shaky after the terrific welcome cocktail reception at Papiamento Restaurant the day before. The spicy lunch, however, put some color back into their faces, as did the gale-force wind..

For 4th-generation Eric Wente, on the island to play in 'his' tournament, the day was hot but great. "This is my favorite tournament of the year," he professed. An avid golfer himself, Eric had been teamed up with Radisson Resort's gm Rob Smith and the team did



very well indeed, finishing in 33rd place. They did especially well in the wine quiz, of course. There were questions such as 'for how long has the Wente family been in the wine business?' and 'name an Italian vine varietal planted on Wente Vineyards?'. The answers were of course 'more than 125 years' and 'Barbera and Sangiovese'. A beaming Eric handed out the prizes to the winners during the superb soup buffet and prize giving ceremony, held on Tierra del Sol's outside patio. The setting sun beamed along as well.

Benefiting charity of the fund-raising golf tournament is the Fundacion Pa Nos Comunidad (FPNC), which supports local families in need. Sponsors as well as participants and organizers clearly saw the need for assistance of this national charity and the proceeds of the tournament will be donated to the FPNC shortly. The foundation was very visible, selling tee-shirts and offering monthly standing orders.

Valued sponsors of the 2011 edition of the Wente Vineyards/Papiamento Restaurant Golf Tournament at Tierra del Sol included Ocean-Air, Robertson



Fire Protection, Aruba Bank, Coldwell Banker, Plus Accountants, Elmar, Ling & sons, Nagico Insurance, Oduber & Kan, Setar, VNO, AAA, Essex Freight, ASAP and Dufry. Results of the 7th annual Wente Vineyards/Papiamento Restaurant Golf Tournament are as follows:

Yubi Toppenberg/Hubert Kock (61.4)	gen (62.4)
2. Cadochi Kock/Martin Woogen (64.7) □	Eddie Rivera/Hunt Riley (63.3)
	Nigel Nedd/Crla Schipper (63.4)
	Mike/Maurice de l'Isle (63.7)
	6. John Grigg/Gian Pietersz (64.2)
	Raymond Freake/Patrick v.d. Donk (64.3)
	Floyd/Larry Nedd ((64.3)
	Phil/Paula Bowen (64.6)
	Bas/Bob v.d. Nieuwenhuizen (64.7) □



To The Biblioteca Nacional Aruba

U.S. Consulate General donates books to Aruba



ORANJESTAD - The U.S. Consulate General in Curacao donated an assortment of English language books, new and used, to the Biblioteca Nacional Aruba on March 31, 2011. The multi-interest books are an important addition to the library's current English language book collection. The books are intended for all ages, but many are of special interest to young people. □

Among the gifts are books related to sports, nature, U.S. culture, U.S. government and a variety of anti-drug flyers. The United States Consulate General hopes this collection will contribute to a better understanding of the U.S. and its diverse culture. Library director Astrid Britten accepted this gift on behalf of the library from U.S. Vice-Consul Winifred Hofstetter. □

Aruba's visitors celebrating birthdays in style

PALM BEACH - Papillon Restaurant in The Village, across from the Radisson Resort, is always a happy place, but last Saturday the sparks flew, champagne flowed and Happy Birthdays were sung. What was the occasion? Well, Robert Willen celebrated his birthday there together with his fiancée Victoria as did Samantha Mergen from Minnesota with her husband John. For Robert and Victoria it was



Birthdays celebrated Papillon Restaurant



the second time on the island, but the first time at Papillon; Sam and John are almost Arubians, having been here ten times, but it was also their first time at Papillon.

The couple flew to Aruba together with Sam's sister Jacky and brother-in-law Sean from Iowa; they are all staying at the Marriott Resort.

Looking at everyone's faces, Sam and Robert's birthdays were a blast! □

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"Nos Cunucu - The Land Farm" supplies Aruba with freshness



Aruba now has a produce farm called "Nos Cunucu - The Land Farm". This is an incredible feat and certainly one of its kind on Aruba. Owner Ari Lichtenstien had a dream to grow his own fruits and vegetables and although it took him a year to develop, he has finally launched his "fresh" farm to Aruba.

"The Land Farm" has already started supplying many of Aruba's most popular supermarkets with fresh fruits and vegetables grown right here on Aruba. The farm hosts a wide variety of melons, ber-

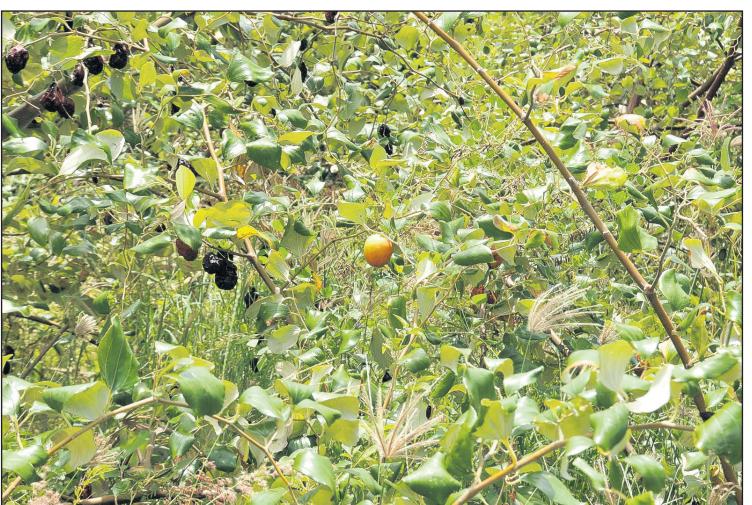
ries, tomatoes, cucumbers, apples, soon-to-be-avocados and many local fruits that are only grown here on Aruba. One very special berry fruit from the strawberry tree honestly tastes like a mouth full of cotton candy.

The giant green houses provide the perfect environment to grow the fruits and vegetables. Bumble bees that live in the green houses help pollinate the plant life to thrive. "Nos Cunucu - The Land Farm" has already made significant donations to the community with the absolute

freshest donations to the community in the capacity of the Dr. Horacio Oduber Hospital – Meals on Wheels and also to the elderly at Paviljoen, Maristella and SABA

For more information on "Nos Cunucu - The Land Farm" please contact: 5855231 or 5925123. This is the only place for the freshest fruits and vegetables on the island and with a more than fresh new low price. Restaurants and supermarkets are more than welcome to order directly. □

~ Photos by Julia Renfro



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Mocca is on the look-out for friends



ORANJESTAD - We would like to introduce Mocca to you, one of the donkeys living at the Aruban Donkey Sanctuary. He was roaming around in the vicinity of Vonder Piet and he in a bad condi-

tion. He was exhausted, limping along and things could not have gone on much longer. Mocca appeared to have a leg injury, several large wounds in his neck, suffering from exhaustion and dehydration

before he was rescued. Catching him was a breeze, therefore. Once at the sanctuary, Mocca soon recuperated and after two months of intensive treatment and lots of love, he was back to normal. During

his revalidation period, Mocca had been put in Kroket's corral, and that proved to be a good thing: nowadays Mocca is still protecting Kroket against the group and the two are still best friends. Mocca has a chip, just like the other donkeys. This way he can be recognized and all his medical information is on it. The donkeys at the sanctuary are well-cared for: they get their food and drink and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers. The volunteers try to cover the cost through organizing all kinds of activities and by selling nice souvenirs in the store. Fortunately there are visitors who adopt a donkey now and then, who donate money or who buy something in the store. They help keep the sanctuary afloat that way. The volunteers are now looking for people who wish to

adopt Mocca. He will stay at the sanctuary, of course; the only thing that is needed is that AWG. 30,- per month is paid for his keep. In this way you help support this wonderful donkey as well as the sanctuary. You will receive a nice document and a super T-shirt. And if you like, your name and photo will be posted on our website. The sanctuary is open on weekdays from 9 – 4 pm and in the weekends from 10 – 3 pm; visitors are very welcome. The sanctuary is also a great place to drink cup of coffee or a juice or eat an ice cream.

Please call the Donkey Sanctuary at 593 2933 and become 7-Up's new family member; you can also register as an adoptive parent via our website www.arubandonkey.org. or deposit a donation on our Aruba Bank account 40.03.025. Please help! □

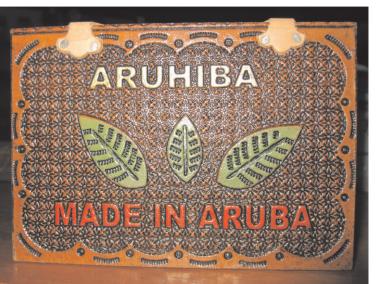
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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced

cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba



he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars. The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five

cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till 8:30pm. And open on Sunday



from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores. Visit our authentic tobacco

farm where cigars are handmade. For tour to the tabaco factory call: 586-0347

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Hague court says

Gaddafi planned civilian killings



House Armed Services Committee Chairman Rep. Howard McKeon, R-Calif., moves his chair on Capitol Hill in Washington after speaking about military operations in Libya.

By Angus MacSwan
Associated Press

BENGHAZI, Libya — The International Criminal Court has evidence Muammar Gaddafi's government planned to put down protests by killing civilians before the uprising in Libya broke out, the ICC's prosecutor said on Tuesday. Protests against the government that began on February 15 swiftly descended into civil war after Gaddafi's forces opened fire on demonstrators. He then put down uprisings in Libya's west, leaving the east and the city of Misrata in rebel hands.

NATO-led air power is now holding the balance in Libya, preventing Gaddafi's forces from overrunning the seven-week old revolt, but unable for now to hand the rebels

outright victory.

The United Nations Security Council, which on March 17 sanctioned air strikes on Libyan government forces to prevent them killing civilians, in February referred Libya to the ICC, the world's first permanent war crimes court.

Court prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo is to report back to the U.N. on May 4, and is then expected to request arrest warrants.

"We have evidence that after the Tunisia and Egypt conflicts in January, people in the regime were planning how to control demonstrations inside Libya," Moreno-Ocampo told AP. "They were hiding that from people outside and they were planning how to manage the crowds the evidence we have is that the shooting of ci-

vilians was a pre-determined plan."

"The planning at the beginning was to use tear gas and (if that failed to work) shooting," he added.

DEFECTOR SOUGHT

The court prosecutor wants to speak to former Libyan Foreign Minister Moussa Koussa who defected to Britain last week saying he did so because of attacks on civilians by Gaddafi's forces.

Koussa's defection would be taken into consideration in the investigation into Gaddafi, his sons and aides, Moreno-Ocampo said, hinting others inside the government might follow suit.

"The fact that Moussa Koussa defected is interesting because that is one option you have. If you have no power to stop the crimes then you can defect to show you are not responsible," he said.

Fighting on the frontline in the eastern oil terminal town of Brega has become bogged down with Gaddafi's advantage in tanks and artillery canceled out by NATO-led air strikes which effectively back the rebels.

Diplomatic efforts to end the conflict have similarly failed to make any progress with the government side offering concessions, but insisting Gaddafi stay in power and the rebels adamant that Libya's leader for the past 41 years leave. □

Japan plant operator says

Radioactive leak slow



A member of the Japan Self Defense Force stands on a house at an area that was damaged by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, in Yamada.

By Chizu Nomiyama
Associated Press

TOKYO — The operator of Japan's crippled Fukushima nuclear power plant said it had reduced the flow of highly radioactive water out of a reactor, a possible sign of progress in an almost month-long battle to contain the world's biggest nuclear disaster in quarter of a century.

Samples of the water used to cool the damaged reactor No. 2 were 5 million times the legal limit of radioactivity, adding to fears that contaminants had spread far beyond the disaster zone. The government said it was considering imposing radioactivity restrictions on seafood for the first time in the crisis after contaminated fish were found. India also became the first country to ban food imports from all areas of Japan over radiation fears.

Tokyo Electric Power Co (TEPCO) said late on Tuesday that it had slowed the radioactive water flow from reactor No. 2 at its Fukushima Daiichi plant. Earlier, desperate engineers had used little more than home remedies, including a mixture of sawdust, newspaper and concrete, to stem the flow of contaminated water.

"We can't actually measure the amount but we have visually confirmed that the amount of water flowing out is decreasing, so we have reason to think our measures are working to a certain extent," a TEPCO official told reporters.

Workers are still struggling to restart cooling pumps -- which recycle the water -- in four reactors damaged by last month's 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami. □

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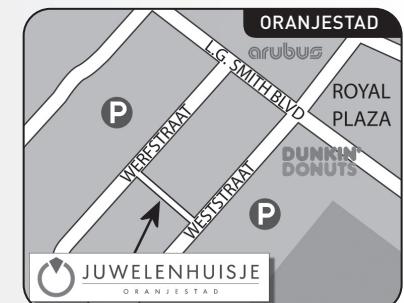
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Marijuana without the high Painkiller breakthrough



Marijuana for healing purposes

NEW YORK – Scientists believe they can isolate the pain-easing benefits of medical marijuana so sufferers can consume it without becoming foggy and paranoid.

What is marijuana without the high? Still a very effective painkiller. And now, scientists believe they can harness the drug's anesthetic action while doing away with its psychedelic effects. In a new paper published in the journal *Nature Chemical Biology*, Professor Li Zhang and a team of scientists at the U.S. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism report that THC can potentially be used as a side-effect-free painkiller. Is a new class of "non-psychotropic cannabinoids" on the way? Here's a brief guide: What is this breakthrough ex-

actly? Zhang and his team discovered that tetrahydrocannabinol (more commonly known as THC), the main psychoactive ingredient in cannabis, produces different effects by bonding to different receptors in the brain. Scientists have known for years that THC bonds with a certain receptor to produce the classic disorienting marijuana high. But now researchers have identified precisely where THC targets the nervous system to lessen anxiety and dull pain. Hence, the potential to satisfy medical marijuana's desire for pure pain relief.

How'd they figure this out? By experimenting on mice, naturally. Scientists blocked the pain-reducing receptors in the stoned rodents' brains. □

Gov't can't solve budget battles?

By Daniel Altschuler
Associated Press

NEW YORK – In recent weeks, Americans have watched budget battles tear apart Congress and state governments. This may be just the beginning.

As states and cities across the country confront staggering budget shortfalls, they face a double whammy: Voters are already disillusioned with government, and now elected officials have fewer resources to address citizens' concerns. Recent polls show that Americans are as disgruntled as ever with Congress and both major parties.

Meanwhile, the economic crisis has left federal, state, and city legislators short of funds for public goods like education and health care. □

Faced with such daunting budget dilemmas, what are politicians to do? Two words: Look south! "Participatory budgeting" (PB), a model popular throughout Latin America, may offer a way to do more with less, and to reconnect citizens with government.

PB gives taxpayers a voice and a vote in how government spends public money. Unlike consultations, PB enables ordinary people to directly decide budget spending.

Citizens receive training, identify and prioritize local needs, develop spending proposals, and vote on the proposed projects. Then the government carries out the top proposals, participants monitor progress, and the cycle begins anew. □

Goldstone's war-crimes reversal

Vindication for Israel?

NEW YORK – The author of a hard-hitting U.N. report on Israel's incursion into Gaza revisits the issue in a Washington Post op-ed. Is he clearing Israeli forces of war crimes? "If I had known then what I know now," begins South African jurist Richard Goldstone in a Washington Post op-ed, then my scathing 2009 U.N. Human Rights Council report on Israel's deadly three-week incursion into Gaza "would have been a different document." Goldstone goes on to distance himself from one of the report's most explosive claims: That Israel deliberately targeted Palestinian civilians, a potential war crime. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has now called on the U.N. to retract the Goldstone Report, saying the op-ed vindicates Israel. Does it?

Yes, Israel deserves an apology: Goldstone's op-ed "can be summarized in two words: Never mind," says the Chicago Tribune in an editorial.



Richard Goldstone

He doesn't just undermine his "disastrously wrong report" and its most incendiary findings. He also charges that the U.N. Human Rights Council is embarrassingly anti-Israel. The U.N. needs to formally scrap the Goldstone Report, then admit it isn't "an honest broker in the Middle East."

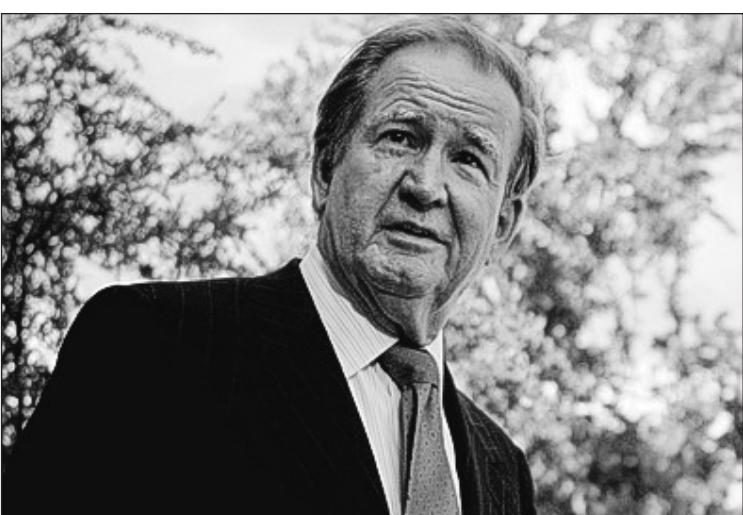
"*Israel and the UN*"
No, this is hardly exonerating: This is a "qualification," not a "retraction," says Ben White in Mondoweiss. Goldstone

doesn't dispute the report's central finding, that Israel used "deliberately disproportionate" violence to "punish, humiliate, and terrorize" Gazans. Besides, the Goldstone Report was written by "four respected international jurists" and its findings were independently corroborated by outside groups.

"*Goldstone: 'Retractions' vs facts*"
This is a "fiasco of politicization" on both sides. □

Who are we fighting for?

On March 20, Pastor Terry Jones, who heads a congregation of 30 at his Dove World Outreach Center church in Gainesville, Fla., conducted a mock trial of the Quran "for crimes against humanity." Pronouncing Islam's sacred book guilty, Jones soaked a Quran in kerosene and set it ablaze in a portable fire pit. Few noticed. But Hamid Karzai did. On March 24, the president of Afghanistan, our presumed ally in the war with al-Qaida and the Taliban, condemned this "crime against the religion and the entire Muslim nation," called on the United States to bring Jones to justice and demanded "a satisfactory response to the resentment and anger of over 1.5 billion Muslims around the world." Thus the firebrand here is not just Jones, who perpetrated the sacrilege, but Karzai, who made certain his countrymen knew what happened 10,000 miles away and



Pat Buchanan

four days before. Friday, after prayers in Mazar-e-Sharif, a mob, inflamed by imams denouncing Jones, descended on the U.N. compound. When they left, seven U.N. employees lay dead, two reportedly beheaded. President Obama denounced Jones' "act of extreme intolerance and bigotry," and added that "to attack and kill innocent people in response is outrageous and an affront to human dignity and decency." Gen. David Petraeus deplored the Quran-burning as "hateful, disrespectful and enormously intolerant." Still, on Saturday, rioters waving Taliban flags and shouting "Death to America" and "Death to Karzai" went on a rampage in Kandahar that ended with nine Afghans dead and 80 injured when they tried to march on the U.N. compound and security troops fired on them. □



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A chef serves fatty tuna and pickles rolls for customers at a sushi restaurant in Tokyo.

Sea radiation a blow to Japan's fishermen

By MALCOLM FOSTER

RYAN NAKASHIMA,
Associated Press

TOKYO — Fishermen who lost their homes and boats in Japan's tsunami now fear radioactive water gushing into the Pacific Ocean from a crippled nuclear plant could cost them their livelihoods.

The contaminated water raised concerns about the safety of seafood in the country that gave the world sushi, prompting the government to set limits for the first time on the amount of radiation permitted in fish. Authorities insisted the radioactive water would dissipate and posed no immediate threat to sea creatures or people who might eat them. Most experts agreed. Still, Japanese officials adopted the new standards as a precaution. And the mere suggestion that seafood from Japan could be at any risk stirred worries throughout the fishing industry.

"Even if the government says the fish is safe, people won't want to buy seafood from Fukushima," says Ichiro Yamagata, a fisherman who lived in the shadow of the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant. "We probably can't fish there for several years."

Fukushima is not a major fishing region, and no fishing is allowed in the direct vicinity of the plant. But experts estimate the coastal areas hit by the massive wave account for about a fifth of Japan's annual catch.

India announced Tuesday that it was halting food imports from Japan out of fear of radiation contamination. Few countries have gone so far, but India's three-month ban reflected the unease created by the nuclear crisis among consumers.

India said the ban would last three months or until the risk subsides. It planned to review the situation weekly. Yamagata, whose home is within the 12-mile evacuation zone around the plant, is staying in a Tokyo soccer stadium with his wife and about 140 other refugees. He expects his fishing days are over. □

In Ivory Coast

Strongman says he's not stepping down

By R. CALLIMACHI

Associated Press

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — Ivory Coast's strongman leader Laurent Gbagbo holed up in a bunker inside the presidential residence Tuesday, defiantly maintaining he won the election four months ago even as troops backing the internationally recognized winner encircled the home.

Gbagbo's comments by telephone to France's LCI television came as French officials and a diplomat said he was negotiating his departure terms after French and U.N. forces launched a military offensive Monday. Democratically elected leader Alassane Ouattara has urged his supporters to take Gbagbo alive. Talks about Gbagbo's departure terms were ongoing Tuesday evening directly between Gbagbo and Ouattara, according to a diplomat who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly. France's foreign minister said Gbagbo would be required to



Soldiers loyal to Alassane Ouattara man a checkpoint at one of the principal entrances to Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Ivory Coast's entrenched strongman Laurent Gbagbo huddled in a bunker at his home and was exploring different options for his surrender, officials said Tuesday, as forces backing the country's democratically elected leader seized the residence.

relinquish power in writing after a decade as president, and must formally recognize Ouattara, the internationally backed winner of the November election that plunged the West African nation into chaos. But Gbagbo showed no intention of leaving, declaring in his interview with French television, that Ouattara "did not win the elections" even

though he was declared the victor by the U.N., African Union, United States, former colonial power France and other world leaders. "I won the election and I am not negotiating my departure," Gbagbo said by telephone. The French channel said the interview was conducted by phone from his residence at 1730 GMT, and lasted about 20 minutes. □

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Yemen's Saleh urges talks in Saudi, 3 dead



Anti-government protesters run after police fired tear gas during a demonstration in the southern Yemeni city of Taiz.

By Mohamed Sudam
Associated Press

SANA - Yemen's president urged the opposition to join talks in Saudi Arabia to try to end weeks of turmoil and violence in which at least three more people were killed on Tuesday.

Faced with mass demonstrations demanding an end to his 32-year rule, President Ali Abdullah Saleh is clinging to power in the poorest country in the Middle East, from which al Qaeda has planned attacks on the

United States.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) on Monday invited government and opposition representatives to talks in Saudi Arabia, at a date yet to be set, with the United States pressing the veteran political survivor to negotiate with his opponents.

Saleh, who ignored a transition-of-power plan offered by the opposition on Saturday, accepted the Arab Gulf states' invitation on Tuesday and urged the opposition to follow suit. □

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British Police say

Arrests in tabloid hacking scandal

LONDON - Police investigating Britain's phone hacking scandal arrested Tuesday the chief reporter and a former news editor of the country's top-selling newspaper. London's Metropolitan Police said they had arrested two men on suspicion of unlawfully intercepting mobile phone voicemail messages.

They are the first arrests since detectives reopened their probe into allegations that staff at News of the World, a Sunday tabloid, hacked into the answerphone messages of royals, celebrities and politicians. Chief reporter Neville Thurlbeck, 50, and 42-year-old Ian Edmondson, the former assistant editor, were bailed to return in September. They were arrested after attending separate London police stations by appointment. They were held "on suspicion of conspiring to intercept communications... and unlawful interception of voicemail messages," a police spokeswoman said.

News International, which publishes News of the World, said it was co-operating fully with the investigation.

"In January, News International voluntarily approached the Met Police and provided information that led to the



Police investigating Britain's phone hacking scandal arrested two men Tuesday, named by media as the chief reporter and a former news editor of the country's top-selling newspaper.

opening of the current police investigation," the company said. "News International terminated the employment of the assistant editor of the News of the World at the same time. "News International has consistently reiterated that it will not tolerate wrongdoing and is committed to acting on evidence."

The tabloid's royal correspondent Clive Goodman was jailed in 2007 for conspiracy to access mobile phone messages involving Princes William and Harry.

The Met reopened their investigation after it was handed the fresh information, something which led to the resignation of Andy Coulson as Prime Min-

ister David Cameron's media chief.

Coulson, News of the World's editor from 2003 to 2007, announced his resignation after Goodman was jailed, but insisted he knew nothing about the hacking. Cameron hired him as his communications chief a few months later.

However, once the investigation was reopened, Coulson quit Cameron's team, saying the row was proving too distracting. He continues to deny any wrongdoing.

The Met said last month they would contact potential new phone-hack victims, including former deputy prime minister John Prescott, after the new evidence emerged. □

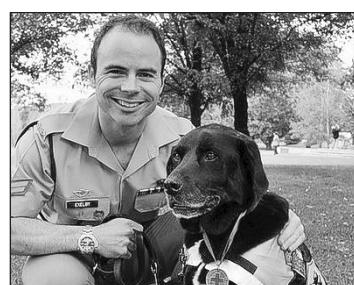
Australian military animal

Dog awarded rare bravery medal

CANBERRA - A bomb detection dog that spent a year lost in Afghanistan's Taliban heartland Tuesday became only the second Australian military animal to receive the country's most prestigious animal bravery award. The black Labrador retriever called "Sarbi" was awarded the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' purple cross in Canberra, in a ceremony attended by Chief of Army, Lieutenant General Ken Gillespie. "I think there's no doubt that Sarbi has shown an incredible resilience and strength that should be recognised," RSPCA Australia national president Lynne Brad-

shaw said. Sarbi, deployed to search for roadside bombs for Australia's Special Forces, went missing in September 2008 when Taliban militants ambushed Australian, US and Afghan forces in Uruzgan province. Nine people, including her handler, were wounded in the fierce firefight.

The dog was recovered at a remote patrol base in northeastern Uruzgan more than a year later by a US soldier, and had apparently been well cared for during her time in the restive region. War Memorial spokeswoman Carol Cartwright said Sarbi was only the second animal to get the award for war-related efforts, after the



A handout photo taken and released by the Australian Department of Defence (ADOD) shows explosive detection dog handler Corporal Adam Exelby with explosive detection dog 'Sarbi' after receiving the Purple Cross for bravery in Canberra.

donkey "Murphy", which was used to ferry the wounded from the WWI battlefield of Gallipoli. □

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Branson unveils 'flying' sub to plummet ocean depths



Sir Richard Branson (R) and explorer Chris Welsh attend a press conference in Newport Beach, California to announce plans to take a solo piloted submarine to the deepest points in each of the world's five oceans.

By Michael Thurston
 Associated Press

NEWPORT BEACH, California – British billionaire Richard Branson unveiled plans Tuesday to pilot a “flying” mini-submarine down to the furthest depths of the oceans, in his latest record-breaking adventure.

The single-seater Virgin Oceanic craft will try to reach the deepest points in each of the world’s five oceans in what would be the first such feat starting with the deepest of them all, in the western Pacific later this year.

“With space long ago reached by man, and commercial spaceflight tantalizingly close, the last great challenge for humans is to reach

and explore the depths of our planet’s oceans,” said Branson. “There are enormous amounts of the oceans that have not been explored. More men have been to the moon than have been down further than 20,000 feet,” he told announcing the project at Newport Harbor, south of Los Angeles. Branson will share piloting duties with US sailor and explorer Chris Welsh, the chief pilot of the winged, snub-nosed submersible, in the five dives planned over the two-year period.

If plans go well and pressure testing succeeds, the first will be taken by chief pilot Welsh into the Mariana Trench in the Pacific, which goes down to 36,201 feet later in 2011. □

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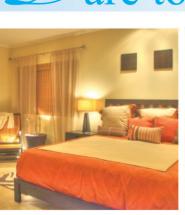
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To key Gadhafi aides

Envoy dangles financial offer

By DAVID STRINGER

Associated Press

LONDON – It’s an offer that diplomats hope Moammar Gadhafi’s family and top aides can’t refuse: If they publicly withdraw support for the Libyan dictator’s regime, the restrictions on their assets and travel plans could be made to vanish.

The U.S. Treasury and Britain’s Foreign Office have spelled out the details of the proposal, and discussions are now under way at the European Union ahead of a meeting of foreign ministers next week. Talks on the proposed deal will also take place among U.N. Security Council members if any of those named under U.N. sanctions flee from Libya and renounce Gadhafi.

Gadhafi’s seven sons, a wife, his daughter, two cousins and other allies who have served him for much of his rule are all being given a chance to escape international blacklists and reclaim billions of dollars of seized funds.

But some critics recoil at the thought, wondering whether the incentives will set a bad precedent for giving billions back to possible plunderers



Anti-war protesters take part in a demonstration in front of the White House in Washington, DC urging an end to the war on Libya.

or even if the measures will work to oust Gadhafi.

The offer came as Gadhafi’s forces unleashed a withering bombardment on the rebels outside a key oil town Tuesday and a U.S. envoy met with the rebels in the eastern city of Benghazi in a possible step toward diplomatic recognition. The EU will decide next week whether to lift a travel ban and asset freeze imposed on Moussa Koussa, the former Libyan foreign minister

who escaped from Tripoli last week, flew into Britain and is now providing information to intelligence officers and government officials in the U.K. □

“There are talks going on this week ahead of meetings in Europe next week,” a Foreign Office spokeswoman said, on customary condition of anonymity in line with policy. The U.S. Treasury on Monday removed sanctions it had imposed against Koussa, saying lifting the measures “should encourage others within the Libyan government to make similar decisions to abandon the Gadhafi regime.”

It’s likely that EU diplomats will also discuss how to handle other potential defectors attracted by the terms of the international community’s deal. □

Trump gets weirder



By GAIL COLLINS

© 2011 New York Times

Donald Trump has run faux campaigns for president before, flirting with the Democrats and independents. This time, he's playing a conservative Republican. By 2016, he'll probably be talking about his affinity for the Alaskan Independence Party or the Whigs.

And, of course, he's suddenly a birther. "This guy either has a birth certificate or he doesn't," he said of President Barack Obama. "I didn't think this was such a big deal, but, I will tell you, it's turning out to be a very big deal because people now are calling me from all over saying: Please don't give up on this issue."

It was a perfect vocalization of the New York street: People are calling me up! Don't believe everything you hear, unless it comes over the phone. In a potential Republican field that includes Michele Bachmann, Sarah Palin and Newt Gingrich, it's hard to come up with a line of attack loopy enough to stand out from the pack. But darned if Trump didn't manage to find one.

"If he wasn't born in this country, it's one of the greatest scams of all time," Trump told Bill O'Reilly, who demurred: "I don't think that's the case."

Vote for Donald Trump, the man who can make Bill O'Reilly look like the most sensible guy in the room.

Trump's main argument for why he should be taken seriously as a presidential contender is his business success. Has Obama ever hosted a long-running reality series? Owned a bankruptcy?

bound chain of casinos? Put his name on a flock of really unattractive high-rise apartment buildings? No!

"By now my name is big enough and equated with the gold standard to the extent that I don't have to say too much about it," Trump wrote in one of his books, before going on to say a lot more about it. He is extremely sensitive to any gibes about his business record, which has been up and down over the years.

During one down period, I referred to him in print as a "financially embattled thou-sandaire" and he sent me a copy of the column with my picture circled and "The Face of a Dog!" written over it.

Trump was one of the first people I interviewed when I came to New York as a reporter back in the '80s when he was a developer-wunder-kind who had started in the business with nothing but a smile, a dream and his father's large holdings in real estate.

He's still promoting, 24/7. Some people believe that his presidential flirtations are an attempt to draw viewers to his TV show, "Celebrity Apprentice."

In it, people who are alleged to be famous compete for money for their favorite charities and what one former contestant revealed was a salary of \$16,000 apiece. That isn't much for network TV work, but since one of this year's celebrities, disgraced former steroid-using baseball player Jose Canseco, recently tried to make a \$5,000 fee by sending his brother to impersonate him in an exhibition boxing match, you have to figure it comes in handy.

"Celebrity Apprentice" is widely regarded as terrible and cheesy programming, but, actually, it has its moments.

I recently saw an episode in which a former top model had a serious discussion with a fellow competitor about whether this was the 20th century or the 21st. □



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Moment Of Truth



By DAVID BROOKS

© 2011 New York Times

It was a season of fiscal perestroika. Last fall, the Simpson-Bowles deficit commission released a bold report on how to avoid an economic catastrophe. For a few weeks, the think tanks and government offices were alive with proposals to reduce debt and reform entitlements, the tax code and just about every other government program.

The mood did not last. The polls suggested that voters were still unwilling to accept tax increases or benefit cuts. Smart Washington insiders like Mitch McConnell and President Barack Obama decided that any party that actually tried to implement these ideas would be committing political suicide. The president walked away from the Simpson-Bowles package. Far from addressing the fiscal problems, the president's budget would double the nation's

debt over the next decade, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

But the forces of reform have not been entirely silenced. Over the past few weeks, a number of groups, including the ex-chairmen of the Council of Economic Advisors and 64 prominent budget experts, have issued letters arguing that the debt situation is so dire that doing nothing is not a survivable option. What they lacked was courageous political leadership — a powerful elected official willing to issue a proposal, willing to take a stand, willing to face the political perils.

The country lacked that leadership until today. Today, Paul Ryan, the Republican chairman of the House Budget Committee, is scheduled to release the most comprehensive and most courageous budget reform proposal any of us have seen in our lifetimes. Ryan is expected to leap into the vacuum left by the president's passivity. The Ryan budget will not be enacted this year, but it will immediately reframe the domestic policy debate.

His proposal will set the standard of seriousness for anybody who wants to play in this discussion. It will become the 2012 Republican platform, no matter who is the nominee. Any candidate hoping to win

that nomination will have to be able to talk about government programs with this degree of specificity, so it will improve the GOP primary race. The Ryan proposal will help settle the fight over the government shutdown and the 2011 budget because it will remind everybody that the real argument is not about cutting a few billion here or there. It is about the underlying architecture of domestic programs in 2012 and beyond.

The Ryan budget will put all future arguments in the proper context: The current welfare state is simply unsustainable and anybody who is serious, on left or right, has to have a new vision of the social contract.

The initial coverage will talk about Ryan's top number — the cuts of more than \$4 trillion over the next decade. But the important thing is the way Ryan would reform programs. He would reform the tax code along the Simpson-Bowles lines, but without the tax increases. (It's amazing that a budget chairman could include tax policy in his proposal, since it's normally under the purview of the Ways and Means Committee.)

The Ryan budget doesn't touch Medicare for anybody over 55, but for younger people it turns it into a defined contribution plan. □

Mickelson emerging as a Masters favorite

Phil Mickelson watches his shot out of the sand on the eighth hole during the first round of the Houston Open PGA Tour golf tournament, Thursday, March 31, 2011, in Humble, Texas.



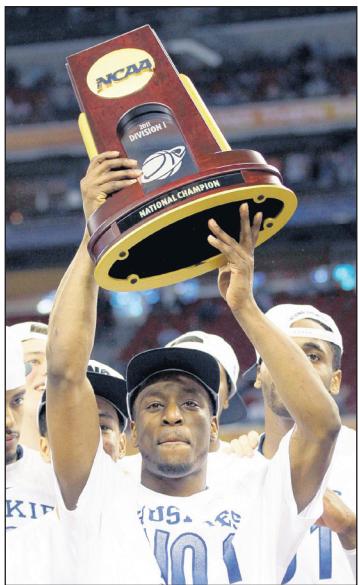
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SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com Website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: 582-7800 Wednesday, April 6, 2011

UCONN WINS



Connecticut's Kemba Walker holds the championship trophy after his team won the men's NCAA Final Four college basketball championship game against Butler 53-41 Monday, April 4, 2011, in Houston.

Associated Press
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IOC to adopt rules in gender cases

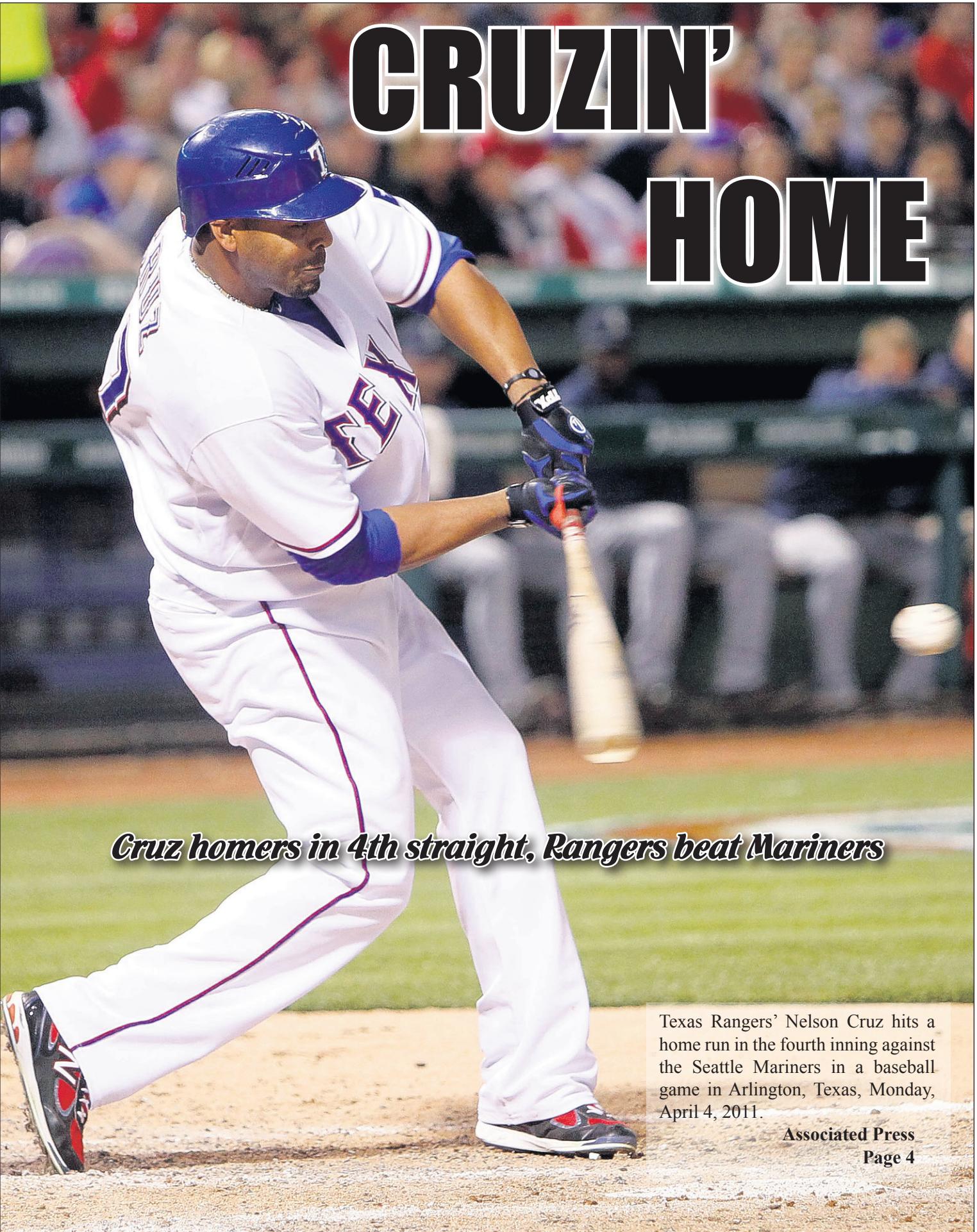
By STEPHEN WILSON
AP Sports Writer

LONDON — The International Olympic Committee agreed Tuesday to adopt rules for dealing with cases of female athletes who have excessive levels of male hormones. IOC medical commission chairman Arne Ljungqvist said the committee will enact rules for determining the eligibility of women athletes with "hyperandrogenism" — a condition involving overproduction of male sex hormones. The ruling IOC executive board agreed to put rules in place in time for the 2012 London Olympics.

Continued on Page B2

CRUZIN' HOME

Cruz homers in 4th straight, Rangers beat Mariners



Texas Rangers' Nelson Cruz hits a home run in the fourth inning against the Seattle Mariners in a baseball game in Arlington, Texas, Monday, April 4, 2011.

Associated Press
Page 4

**NHL Roundup****Sharks clinch division with 6-1 win over Kings**

SAN JOSE, California (AP) — Joe Thornton had a goal and an assist to give him 999 career points and help the San Jose Sharks clinch their fourth straight Pacific Division title with a 6-1 victory over the Los Angeles Kings on Monday. Kyle Wellwood added a goal and two assists, and defensemen Dan Boyle and Marc-Edouard Vlasic also scored for

San Jose Sharks goalie Antti Niemi (31), Marc-Edouard Vlasic, left, and Los Angeles Kings' Ryan Smith (94) eye the puck during the first period of an NHL hockey game Monday, April 4, 2011, in San Jose, Calif.

Associated Press

the Sharks, who won for the eighth time in nine games. Joe Pavelski and Devin Setoguchi also scored as San Jose moved one point past Detroit for second place in the Western Conference with 103 points with three games remaining. Michal Handzus scored the lone goal for the Kings, who lost for the second time in seven games and missed a chance to clinch a playoff berth. Los Angeles remained tied for fourth in the West with Phoenix.

Rangers 5, Bruins 3

At New York, Brandon Dubinsky and Michael Sauer scored 51 seconds apart late in the third period as New York turned a likely crippling de-

feat into its most stirring victory of the season by rallying to beat Boston.

The Rangers, who trailed 3-0 in the second period, seemed beaten by the Northeast Division-champion Bruins when the game suddenly turned without warning. Dubinsky scored the tying goal with 3:48 remaining and Sauer followed at 17:03 with the winning tally that shook Madison Square Garden.

Derek Stepan sealed it with an empty-net goal with 52.2 seconds left. Vinny Prospal had two goals in the second period to start the Rangers' rally that might have saved their season. □

IOC

Continued from Page B1

The IOC will also ask other sports federations to adopt similar measures. The issue of gender verification gained global attention after South African runner Caster Semenya was ordered to undergo sex tests after winning the 800 meters at the 2009 world championships. Ljungqvist insisted the IOC initiative had "nothing to do" with the Semenya case and that Olympic and medical experts have been debating the issues for years.

At the heart of the matter is whether a female athlete derives a competitive advantage over other women because of higher than normal levels of hormones such as testosterone. Some

women with the condition develop male-like body characteristics, Ljungqvist said. "Women with hyperandrogenism generally perform better in sport than other women," the IOC said in a statement. Ljungqvist said the condition is "extremely rare" in sports. "There will not be many such cases," he said. "In my experience, there have been only a handful of cases in the last 10 years. (But) they are there and they have to be dealt with in fairness for the athletes and for sport." he IOC medical commission will formulate detailed rules and submit them for approval at the executive board meeting in Durban, South Africa, in July. □



This Aug. 22, 2010, file photo shows Caster Semenya of South Africa gesturing after winning the women's 800 meter final of the ISTAF Athletics Meeting at the Olympic stadium in Berlin, Germany.

Associated Press



Kim Clijsters, from Belgium, returns the ball to Victoria Azarenka, of Belarus, at the Sony Ericsson Open tennis tournament in Key Biscayne, Fla., Tuesday, March 29, 2011.

Associated Press

RAF CASERT
Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — Kim Clijsters will be sidelined for a

month with shoulder and wrist injuries, forcing her out of Belgium's Fed Cup semifinal next week against the Czech

Clijsters out for a month with injuries

Republic.

The U.S. Open and Australian Open champion said a busy spring schedule overexerted her right shoulder and wrist. She will not be able to hold a tennis racket for the next couple of weeks while she recovers. Clijsters will also miss the Madrid Open in the first week of May but hopes to resume her season on clay in Rome on May 9, giving her two weeks to prepare for the French Open.

"I don't want to force anything," she said on her website.

"I want to avoid at all cost that this becomes chronic." Despite promises to take it easy and limit her tournaments, Clijsters acknowl-

edged she had already taken on too much this year. After she capped a stint Down Under with victory in the Australian Open, she played Fed Cup and Paris in February before moving to the United States for two long tournaments.

First, she pulled out of Indian Wells in the fourth round with a shoulder injury and lost in the quarterfinals in Miami last week to eventual champion Victoria Azarenka with a strangely listless performance.

Even then, the signs were already there. "I felt something was not quite right," Clijsters said. "There were too many successive aches and pains that just didn't want to disappear. It gets into your head." The injury is a bitter blow to

Belgium, which face a strong challenge from the Czech Republic at home in Charleroi next week. Early in the season, Justine Henin was forced into retirement because of injury. So instead of featuring two of the game's greatest players, Belgium will be relying on No. 23 Yanina Wickmayer and No. 103 Kirsten Flipkens to face the Czechs.

"I was really looking forward to that Fed Cup," Clijsters said. She wants a good showing at Roland Garros, where she was twice a losing finalist and forced to miss it last year. At 27, she still wants to shine once at the Olympics in London next year, before letting the pull of family take over again. □

Mickelson emerging as a Masters favorite

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. — He is the talk of the Masters, and for good reason. No other player can top his record at Augusta National over the last decade, with three green jackets, eight finishes in the top five and a signature moment just about every year.

That guy used to be Tiger Woods. Now it's Phil Mickelson. It goes beyond Mickelson being the defending champion, listed for the first time as the betting favorite from London to Las Vegas, and at No. 3 in the world being the highest-ranked American for the first time in his career. Just listen to some of the players. "It seems that everyone has pretty much got Mickelson in the green jacket Sunday evening and there's not much use in turning up at this point," U.S. Open champion Graeme McDowell said with a small measure of sarcasm. "He's a great player around Augusta, and if you finish ahead of him, you've got a decent chance."

PGA champion Martin Kaymer, ranked No. 1 in the world, was asked who is the more dominant player at the Masters. "I think Phil," he replied.

And here's what one player had to say about Woods, a four-time Masters champion. "I don't think he'll finish in the top five," Ian Poulter said.

"The shots he was hitting at Doral, they were very inconsistent. You can't hit shots like that on this golf course and get away with it. I don't think you want to rely on your short game that much around this place."

Woods hasn't been chopping it up at Augusta. He also has three wins over the last 10 years, and that doesn't include his record 12-shot victory as a 21-year-old in 1997. He was the runner-up in consecutive years, and his tie for fourth a year ago was impressive considering it was his first competition in five months following a humiliating sex scandal.

What makes Mickelson stand out are the 18 birdies he made

on the weekend at the Houston Open to win by three shots, his first victory since the Masters last year.

"I felt like that golf was in me this year, but I haven't been getting it out," Mickelson said. "I haven't had the same type of mental focus throughout the round that I expect. So to be able to have that type of performance heading into here feels very good. Reminds me a lot of 2006, when I was able to put it together the week before and carry the momentum through."

Woods doesn't have any momentum.

He now has gone 17 months since he last won at the Australian Masters, just 12 days before his car crashed into a fire hydrant and his life unraveled. He really hasn't been close except for the Chevron World Challenge at the end of last year when he blew a four-shot lead in the final round and lost to McDowell in the playoff.

He sounded as confident as ever Tuesday, answering questions about his chances with a pursed smile and "Mmm-hmmm." Asked if fans had seen his best golf, Woods replied, "No."

"I believe in myself," he said. "There's nothing wrong with believing in myself. God, I hope you guys feel the same way about yourselves. That's the whole idea, that you can



Phil Mickelson hits out of a bunker on the eighth hole during the final round of the Houston Open PGA Tour golf tournament on Sunday, April 3, 2011, in Humble, Texas.

Associated Press

always become better." As for the Poulter comments? "Well, Poulter is always right, isn't he?" Woods said. "My whole idea is to try to win the golf tournament, and that's what I'm trying to do. My whole idea is to prepare. I've prepared all year to peak four times a year, and that has not changed."

There was a real storm that blew through Augusta over-

night, toppling trees and power lines across town. The gates to Augusta opened 45 minutes late to give workers a chance to clean the course of debris. Mickelson worked out on the range with Butch Harmon, then headed home to rest. He skipped a final practice round, feeling as though the conditions wouldn't help him much. He'll play Wednesday instead.

The wind pushed the clouds away, and sunshine is forecast the rest of the week. That figures to make Augusta National even faster than usual, putting a special premium on putting. That's where Woods has been struggling most.

"I have been streaky here for some reason, and you can't be streaky here," he said. "You have to get it going and you have to keep it going. □

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late show: 11.30

PG-13

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late show: 11.30

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late show: 11.45

SP PG-13

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AL Roundup

Sickly Tigers lose to Orioles 5-1, fall to 1-3

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — Brian Roberts hit a three-run homer and Jake Arrieta allowed one run in six innings as the unbeaten Baltimore Orioles thrilled a sellout crowd in their home opener by defeating the Detroit Tigers 5-1 Monday. On a gorgeous afternoon at Camden Yards, the Orioles extended a surprising winning streak that began with a three-game sweep at Tampa Bay. Off to its best start since 1997, Baltimore (4-0) has not yet trailed, hasn't given up more than one run in a game and has outscored the competition 17-4. With the score tied at 1-1 in the fifth, Felix Pie walked and went to third on a double by J.J. Hardy before Roberts hit a 1-2 pitch from Rick Porcello (0-1) over the wall in

right-center. Roberts has Baltimore's only two home runs this season.

Nick Markakis followed with his third hit, a double, and Matt Wieters delivered a two-out RBI single for a 5-1 lead. Yankees 4, Twins 3

At New York, Alex Rodriguez and Jorge Posada each hit a two-run homer and rookie Ivan Nova kept New York ahead in a win over Minnesota. Joba Chamberlain, Rafael Soriano and Mariano Rivera each pitched a scoreless inning to close the Yankees' 15th victory in their last 16 home tries against Minnesota — that includes wins in New York's opening-round playoff sweeps over the Twins the last two years.

Rodriguez lined his 615th homer in the first, then Posada



Baltimore Orioles Matt Wieters (32) scores on a wild pitch as Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Rick Porcello, center, during the second inning of a baseball game, Monday, April 4, 2011, in Baltimore.

Associated Press

connected the next inning for his third home run in two days. The shots off Scott Baker (0-1) gave the Yankees 11 home runs through their first four games.

Jim Thome had a two-run double for the Twins.

Rangers 6, Mariners 4

At Arlington, Texas, Nelson Cruz became the third player in major league history to hit

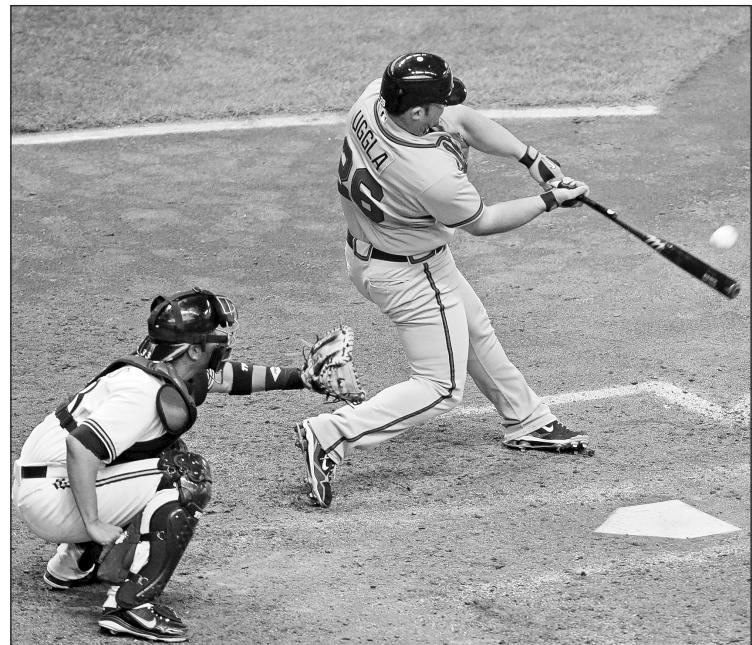
home runs in the first four games of a season as Texas beat Seattle to remain one of four unbeaten teams in the big leagues.

Texas (4-0) is off to its best start since opening 7-0 in 1996, following up a three-game weekend sweep of Boston. Cruz joined Willie Mays (1971) and Mark McGwire (1998) as the only players to

go deep in each of their first four games of a season.

Derek Holland (1-0) allowed three runs and seven hits with five strikeouts in six innings. Neftali Feliz worked a perfect ninth for his first save.

Elvis Andrus got the Rangers rolling in the first inning with his first homer in 705 at-bats. Julio Borbon had a two-run triple. □



Atlanta Braves' Dan Uggla hits the game winning home run in the 8th inning of a baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers Monday, April 4, 2011, in Milwaukee. Atlanta won 2-1.

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Martin Prado and Dan Uggla homered off Takashi Saito in the eighth inning, rallying the Atlanta Braves to a 2-1 victory and spoiling the Milwaukee Brewers' home opener on Monday.

Rickie Weeks continued his impressive start for winless Milwaukee with his third homer.

But the Brewers are 0-4 after getting swept at Cincinnati to begin the season.

Peter Moylan (1-0) got three

NL Roundup

Prado, Uggla rally Braves past lowly Brewers 2-1

outs to earn the win and Craig Kimbrel struck out the side in the ninth for his second save. Prado equalized with his leadoff drive in the eighth. Saito (0-1) got two outs before Uggla hit a deep fly to left-center that hit off the top of the wall and bounced over.

Atlanta starter Brandon Beachy and Milwaukee's Chris Narveson each tossed six sparkling innings.

Cubs 4, Diamondbacks 1

At Chicago, Randy Wells overcame a shaky start to pitch six solid innings and Kerry Wood escaped a bases-loaded jam in the eighth as Chicago beat Arizona.

Alfonso Soriano homered and drove in two runs for the Cubs.

Carlos Marmol, who blew a save in Sunday's loss to the Pirates, worked the ninth for his second of the season.

Wells (1-0), hoping to regain the form of his 2009 rookie season, outpitched Diamondbacks left-hander Joe Saunders (0-1) on an overcast afternoon at Wrigley Field.

Willie Bloomquist hit his first career leadoff homer for Arizona.

Pirates 4, Cardinals 3

At St. Louis, Charlie Morton won his first road game since the end of 2009 in a 47-degree chill as Pittsburgh stunned St. Louis starter Kyle Lohse with a four-run sixth inning.

In a span of four pitches, Lohse (0-1) issued his first walk

all year, then allowed Neil Walker's two-run double and Andrew McCutchen's second homer to put Pittsburgh ahead 4-1.

Joel Hanrahan got four outs to preserve a one-run lead for his third save in three chances for the Pirates, who are 3-1 on the road to start the year after going a major league-worst 17-64 away from home last season.

The Cardinals were 1 for 9 with runners in scoring position and 2 for 16 with men on base against Morton (1-0) and four relievers. Albert Pujols was 0 for 3 with a walk and is 2 for 16 with a homer and one RBI thus far. □

UConn defeats Butler 53-41 for 3rd national title

By EDDIE PELLS

AP National Writer

HOUSTON – The rims were tight, the shots weren't falling and points were at a premium — surely one of the ugliest championships played on college basketball's biggest stage.

For Kemba Walker and UConn, though, the final score was beautiful. In a game that featured 40 minutes of guts and grit, Connecticut made Butler look like the underdog it really was, winning the NCAA men's title Monday night with an old-fashioned, grinding 53-41 beatdown of the Bulldogs. Walker finished with 16 points for the Huskies (32-9), whose amazing late-season streak could be stopped only by the final buzzer. They won their 11th straight game since closing the regular season with a 9-9 Big East record that foreshadowed none of this.

"Every time we play hard, great things always happen to us," Walker said.

It happened again.

They won the title with a defensive showing for the ages, holding Butler to 12-for-64 shooting. That's 18.8 percent, the worst ever in a title game. It was the kind of game only a coaching lifer such as Jim Calhoun could love.

"Butler really plays defense," Calhoun said. "I mean, they really play defense. And we really play defense, and I think eventually our quickness and length got to them, but from a purist standpoint, if you really like defense, take a clip of this game."

At age 68, he became the oldest coach to win the NCAA championship. He won his third title since 1999 and joined John Wooden, Adolph Rupp, Mike Krzyzewski and Bob Knight as only the fifth coach to get to the top three or more times.

He did it to close out a season marked by losing streaks, mistakes made by a young, growing roster and sullied by an NCAA scandal that wrapped up with the embarrassing conclusion that the coach failed to promote an atmosphere of compliance.

Just like the last game, none of this was easy, but the Huskies kept overcoming.

"They truly were brothers, they truly were trusting in each other, and that was very, very special," Calhoun said. "This group has taken me on a very special journey, better than I could possibly imagine." Calhoun coaxed this win out of his team by accepting the reality that the rims were



Connecticut's Jeremy Lamb, center, cradles the trophy after the men's NCAA Final Four college basketball championship game against Butler Monday, April 4, 2011, in Houston. Connecticut won 53-41.

Associated Press

rejecting shots and looked about as wide as a pancake on a cold-shooting, defensive-minded night in cavernous Reliant Stadium. He did it by making his players pound the ball inside and insisting on the kind of defense that UConn played during this remarkable

run, but which often got overshadowed by Walker's theatrics. "So you need to understand that defense is going to take you and hold you in the game until your offense gets going, and that's what I think happened tonight," Calhoun said.

UConn trailed 22-19 after a first half that came straight out of the '40s.

"The halftime speech was rather interesting," Calhoun said. "The adjustment was, we were going to out-will them and outwork them."

And so they did. □

Donald Trump driving pace car at Indianapolis 500

INDIANAPOLIS – Donald Trump hasn't announced whether he'll run for president, but he will be involved in a race of a different kind next month.

The real estate tycoon has been selected to drive the pace car in the 100th anniversary Indianapolis 500.

Race organizers said Tuesday that Trump will drive a 2011 Chevrolet Camaro Convertible Pace Car to lead the field of 33 drivers at the start of the race May 29 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Trump says he's honored to have the job and says the race "has been the gold standard of motorsports for a century." The Camaro is equipped with



Donald Trump poses for photographers with a replica of the 2011 Indianapolis 500 Chevrolet Camaro convertible pace car during a news conference at the Trump Tower, Tuesday, April 5, 2011 in New York.

Associated Press

a 400-horsepower V-8 engine and six-speed automatic transmission.



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HEALTH

Aruba TODAY

**By: Dr Carlos Viana**

Swiss cheese has a distinctive appearance; it is riddled with holes. In a late stage of cheese production a bacteria makes the cheese release carbon dioxide gas. This gas slowly forms the bubbles that develop into holes. This is great for the unique taste and look of Swiss cheese, but not so great for bones. Bones that are porous or full of holes like Swiss cheese are weak and break easily. Bones become porous because they have either lost or are not able to receive or process the materials needed to maintain and rebuild strong bones. Bones are made of protein, minerals, and vitamins. The minerals present in bones are: calcium, potassium, manganese, magnesium, silica, iron, zinc, selenium, boron, phosphorus, sulfur, chromium, and dozens of others. We check the condition of bones with a high tech diagnostic machine called the Bone density scanner, also called dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry (DXA) or bone densitometry, which is an enhanced form of x-ray technology that is used to measure bone loss. The bone density scan will measure if you have healthy bones according to averages for a person your age, or if your bone mineral density is lower than normal. Slight bone density loss is called osteopenia. If more bone material is lost the condition is called osteoporosis, which in Greek means "porous bones". In osteoporosis the bone mineral

Swiss cheese Bones

density (BMD) is reduced, bone structure is deteriorating, and the amount and variety of proteins in bone is reduced. Not a good situation. Osteoporosis itself has no specific symptoms; its main consequence is the increased risk of bone fractures. Osteoporotic fractures are those that occur in situations where healthy people would not normally break a bone; sometimes called fragility fractures. Typical fragility fractures occur in the back bone or spine, ribs, hips and wrist. Medical guidelines recommend all women have a bone density scan at age 65 and men at age 70. If you have high risk factors such as yourself or family members with adult fractures, smoking, or have taken oral steroids for more than 3 months, younger may be recommended. A bone density scan can identify the condition of your bones; however, if you already have osteoporosis having a scan after the fact is like closing the barn doors after the animals have escaped. Conventional medicine attempts to treat osteoporosis with calcium supplements, Vitamin D, and drugs called bisphosphates. For twenty years I have been telling patients that getting too much calcium from pharmaceutical or natural supplements can cause "free calcium" in your blood. I consider this a toxic heavy metal. The same goes for calcium from milk products. The countries with the most milk consumption are the same countries that are suffering the most from osteoporosis. The majority of hip fractures occur in Europe

and North America, major milk consumers. In The British Medical Journal, Dr John G F Cleland states "patients with osteoporosis should generally not be treated with calcium supplements, either alone or combined with vitamin D." Instead of pills and milk, try getting a more absorbent form of calcium together with other vital nutrients from the same place as the cow (is supposed to), green vegetables! My medical protocol treats bone mineral loss differently. First, I begin checking bone mineral loss when possible while patients are still young. Teenage years are a good time to begin checking bones. With a comprehensive blood test, we can determine the amount of minerals being lost. Detecting bone loss early gives us more time to correct the problem. If the blood test shows bone mineral loss, the second thing we do is look for the cause. Bones are the warehouse for many minerals used by the body. Infection, inflammation, insulin resistance, pharmaceutical and street drugs, smoking, toxic heavy metals, insecticides, and many more factors make the blood acidic. Trying to balance this acid environment, the body pulls minerals from the bone "warehouse." Unfortunately the body does not replace those minerals by itself and "Swiss cheese" bones can result. The third phase of our protocol is to correct the acid environment of the body, by removing toxins and adding mineral rich foods and supplements. The minerals lacking in today's foods that are important to bone

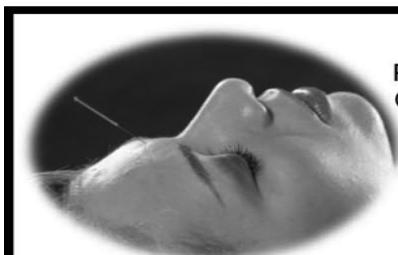
health include, magnesium which needs to team up with vitamin B6 to regulate the absorption of calcium into bone. Zinc deficiency reduces the number of osteoblasts, the cells that form bone, and can cause a variety of health problems. Vitamin C helps individuals absorb calcium and iron from food in order to keep blood, bones, tendons and cell reproduction healthy. Lecithin has a great ability to break up fats and reduce them to microscopic particles. It is a specific antidote for cholesterol. It also insures increased use of vitamins A, D, and E, and helps the body utilize calcium. Having corrected bone problems, you need to start rebuilding your muscles. Every anatomy student learns that bones grow in response to stronger muscles. We know that exercise is beneficial to us in many ways, from helping us lose weight and strengthening our muscles to helping to control insulin problems and keeping our hearts healthy and our lungs strong. Not only does exercise help our bones become stronger and denser, it helps them grow as well. When we put pressure on our skeletal muscles, or the muscles that are attached to bones, the skeletal muscles produce more collagen fibers and deposit mineral salts into our bones, both of which help our bones grow. For this reason, exercise is especially important for growing bones of children and teens, but also for continued health of adults of all ages.

Get The Point The World Health Organization estimates the num-

ber of hip fractures worldwide due to osteoporosis is expected to rise three-fold by the middle of the next century, from 1.7 million in 1990 to 6.3 million by 2050. Both health organizations and individuals must act now to avoid this impending epidemic. You do not need to wait until you are older to find out that you have Swiss cheese bones. Come in so we can help you protect your bones.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270 FAX: 585-4789, Web Sight: www.vianaheal.com

Dr. Viana has been named a facility member for the A4M at their 19th ANNUAL WORLD CONGRESS on ANTI-AGING and Aesthetic Medicine in Orlando April 7-9, 2011. He will be presenting "Bone Mineral Loss in Aging and Biocompatible Medicine: Age Management Interventions – A Fresh Perspective on Osteoporosis" For more information on A4M: www.worldhealth.net. □

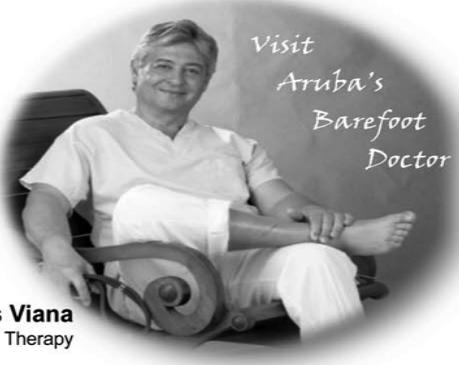


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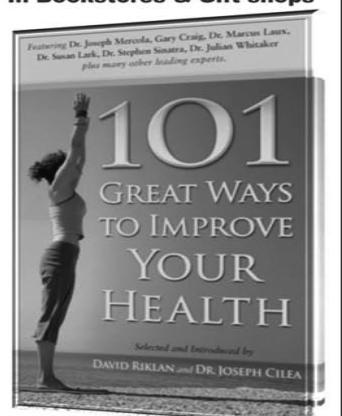
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Richard Branson plans deep-ocean submarine dives

NOAKI SCHWARTZ

Associated Press

NEWPORT BEACH, California (AP) — Billionaire adventurer Richard Branson on Tuesday unveiled a new single-person submarine that he said will be used to set new world records by exploring the five deepest parts of the world's oceans.

Branson said that over the next two years, the solo craft will go to the bottom of the Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic's Puerto Rico Trench and South Sandwich Trench, the Diamantina Trench in the Indian Ocean and the Molloy Deep in the Arctic Ocean.

Branson's fellow explorer, Chris Welsh, plans to make the first descent later this year to the Mariana Trench, which at 36,000 feet is deeper than Mount Everest is high. Branson then plans to explore the 28,000-foot-deep Puerto Rico Trench.

While the pilots for the other three trips have not been chosen, Branson said they hope to set as many as 30 Guinness World Records with the dives. "The last great challenge for humans is to explore the depths of our planet's oceans," the Virgin Atlantic founder said at the Newport Harbor Yacht Club.

A news release said there was



Virgin Oceanic Expeditions' deep sea submarine, in which billionaire adventurer Richard Branson and others plan to take solo piloted expeditions to the deepest point in each of the world's five oceans, is seen at a news conference in Newport Beach, Calif., Tuesday, April 5, 2011.

Associated Press

only one frontier left for Branson's Virgin brand, which has reached "the seven continents of the earth, up into the jet stream and soon, even into space."

"If someone says something is impossible, we like to prove it's possible," Branson said. "I love learning and I'm just very fortunate to participate in these kinds of adventures."

Branson unveiled the submarine, a nearly 18-foot (5.5-meter) long, white-and-blue airplane-like craft with stubby wings and a cockpit.

The carbon fiber and titanium craft will be capable of cruising for about 6.2 miles (10 kilometers) and can stay down unaided for 24 hours.

The sub and its accompanying catamaran cost an estimated \$17 million. Branson said his so-called Virgin Oceanic expedition will have a scientific and educational purpose. He hopes the voyages will help to educate the public about mankind's impacts on the world's oceans and marine life.

He is partnering with Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute and Moss Landing Marine Labs in Northern California as well as other research institutions. Scientists hope to study the tectonic plates and eventually use lander vehicles

to bring back water, microbes and possibly small creatures from the ocean depths.

"We have 800 pounds of moon rocks and not one drop from the bottom of the ocean," said

Alex Tai, Virgin Group director of special projects.

The dives will be dangerous and the pilots will likely be down in the dark and cold ocean depths for hours with little communication with the outside world. Rescues will be impossible, Welsh said. Still, he was clearly more excited than wary of the prospect, saying there is a magic to exploring new places.

"It's like going to the moon and having the lunar rover to explore around," Welsh said.

The dives also will be recorded and uploaded to Google Earth, said John Hanke, the Internet search engine's vice president of product management.

"Our mission for Google Earth is to create an interactive virtual globe and enable users to visit places that they've never explored, including the world's oceans," he said.

The submarine originally was commissioned by Branson's close friend and fellow adventurer Steve Fossett, who died in 2007 while flying a plane over the Sierra Nevada. Fossett had intended to complete the first solo dive to the Mariana Trench, Branson said.

Branson also said he plans to create a larger submarine that can hold more people and offer trips to tourists for a sizable fee.

Last year he unveiled a three-person submarine called the Necker Nymph, which is available for \$2,500 a day for guests of his private resort in the Caribbean. □

Cell carriers to roll out "mobile wallets" in Utah

By BRIAN SKOLOFF

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — A joint venture between three of the nation's four largest cell phone carriers will soon offer the United States' first commercially available mobile fare payment program to a public transportation system.

Isis, a mobile commerce joint venture between AT&T Mobility, T-Mobile USA and Verizon Wireless, announced Tuesday it will roll out the pilot program in Salt Lake City in 2012, offering an alternative to credit and debit cards for Utah Transit Authority fare payments.

The program is also set to work for point-of-sale purchases at retailers in the area.

"This is the evolution of moving off of plastic," Isis CEO Michael Abbott said in an interview Tuesday. "This is the future of payments."

Abbott said the idea is to eventually make Salt Lake City, and other cities across the country, places where consumers don't need to carry their wallets anymore, communities where your cell phone is as good as cash or credit.

The idea sounds simple: Hop a train, swipe your phone, payment made. Grocery shopping? No cash? No problem.

"Salt Lake City: The Place You Can Leave Your Wallet At Home," exclaims a company news release.

Not so fast, say industry watchers.

"This is simply a silly claim on the part of these vendors," said Charles Golvin, a principal analyst with Forrester Research, Inc.

The chips needed to make the so-called Near Field Communications wireless technology work aren't yet available in most cell phones. Many carriers will be rolling them out next year, but it will take time to get them in the hands of consumers. And while the Utah

Transit Authority is already equipped with the necessary technology to read the phones, retailers will also have to begin upgrading their systems.

"There are some out there already but not the majority and it won't be the majority for quite some time," Golvin said. "This is almost certainly going to be like most technology adoption, a slow and steady build over a long period of time."

However, the fact that three of the four largest wireless carriers are now supporting the program means it should gain momentum in the coming years.

"They have their own incentives now to see profit and improve their business through NFC, and that means they will most likely demand that many of their suppliers include that function in the phones they sell," Golvin said.

BlackBerry maker Research In Motion Ltd., has said most new BlackBerrys will have NFC chips by later this year. Google Inc.'s Nexus S already has one, and the company's latest Android software for that and other phones has NFC support. Nokia Corp., the world's largest maker of phones, has committed to putting NFC chips in all its next-generation smart phones.

There's also speculation the new iPhone model due this summer will have an NFC chip, though Apple isn't commenting.

Abbott acknowledged the move will take time to catch on, but said the industry is serious about making mobile payments the future of purchasing transactions.

"This isn't a science fair. This is three carriers across multiple platforms," he said. "It's a transition. It's an evolution. □

Nasdaq OMX to rebalance index; Apple weighting cut



In this March 15, 2011 photo, a curved seven story video billboard is an iconic feature of the NASDAQ Stock Market site building in Times Square, New York.

Associated Press

By PETER SVENSSON
AP Technology Writer
NEW YORK — Nasdaq OMX Group Inc. on Tuesday announced a rebalancing of the Nasdaq-100 Index next month that will significantly reduce Apple Inc.'s weighting in the index.

The Nasdaq-100 Index is made up of the 100 largest non-financial stocks listed on the Nasdaq stock market. It is one of the most widely watched market indexes, used as a barometer for the growth of large-cap U.S. stocks, with a weighting toward technology companies.

The index is tracked by mutual funds and exchange-traded funds. The rebalancing, which takes effect May 2, means that fund managers will have to shift their holdings to reflect the new weighting.

That will have a drastically cut the influence Apple's stock has on the index. The Cupertino, Calif., company currently accounts for 20 percent of the

of Basic Industry. Cuba's domestic production is exclusively heavy oil with a high sulfur content. Its offshore Gulf waters could contain large quantities of lighter, sweet crude, although a test well in 2004 turned up only modest deposits. Studies since then have pointed to "oil traps" in the marine floor, persuading partner companies to take on the ex-

pensive task of exploration in deep water, Marrero said during an earth sciences convention.

The drilling is expected to run through 2013. The Cuban government has designated 59 blocks in Gulf waters encompassing 43,200 square miles where private energy companies have said they could drill deep-water test wells.

The area opened for international investment in 2000, and currently a half-dozen companies, including Spain's Repsol-YPF, have contracted for 22 of the blocks. None of the companies are American — due to Washington's decades-old ban of U.S. business dealings with the communist-governed island — although some U.S. firms have expressed interest in the

past. Marrero repeated Cuba's position that it would be open to partnering with U.S. companies. "Any company could participate under Cuban laws," Marrero said. Earlier this year, Brazilian officials announced that country's state-run energy giant, Petrobras, would withdraw from the Cuban area. "They had a small block."

Cuba, partners to drill 5 Gulf wells this summer

By ANDREA RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

HAVANA — Cuba and partner companies will begin drilling five oil wells in the Gulf of Mexico this summer in hopes of locating enough crude to justify the costly exploration, an official said Tuesday.

"The prospects are very promising" of finding valuable reserves, said Manuel Marrero, an official with the Ministry



GOP budget plan would revamp Medicare, Medicaid

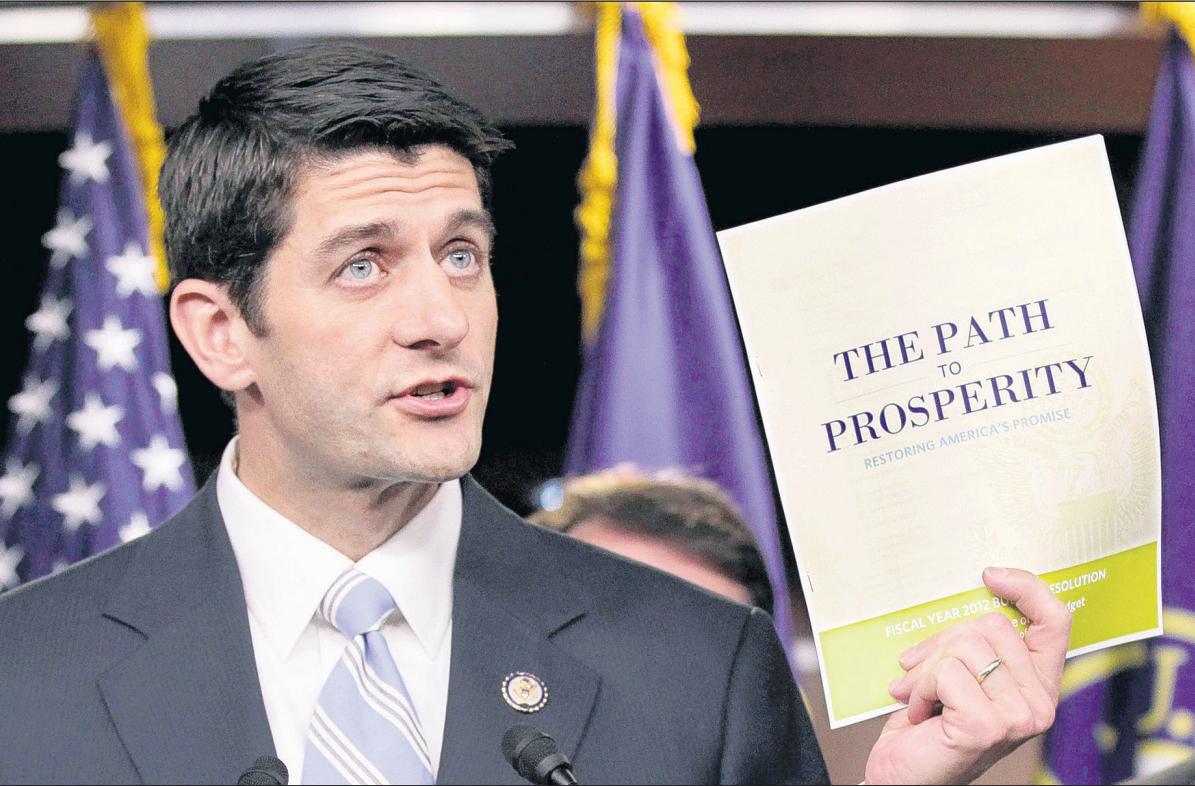
By ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Republicans set up a politically defining clash over the size and priorities of government Tuesday, unveiling a budget plan that calls for both unprecedented spending cuts and a fundamental restructuring of taxpayer-financed health care for the elderly and the poor. The plan would slash federal spending by \$5 trillion or more over the coming decade. It would leave Social Security untouched but shift more of the risk from rising medical costs from the government to Medicare beneficiaries. It also calls for sharp cuts to Medicaid health care for the poor and disabled and to food aid for the poor. Dubbed the "Path to Prosperity," the proposal by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis., at 3.4 percent, and Cisco Systems Inc., at 1.6 percent.

The rebalancing will reduce Apple's share of the index to 12 percent, and increase Microsoft's share to 8 percent. In morning trading, Apple shares slipped 28 cents to \$340.91 after trading as low as \$336 earlier in the session. Microsoft's shares gained 42 cents, or 1.6 percent, to \$25.97.

The imbalance is due to Apple's skyrocketing shares. The company was worth about \$10 per share in December 1998, when the weightings in the Nasdaq-100 were last adjusted.

Nasdaq OMX, the operator of the Nasdaq stock market, said the rebalancing will bring the weights of the companies in the index closer in line with their actual market capitalizations. □



House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis., touts his 2012 federal budget during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, April 5, 2011.

Associated Press

"They're ending Medicare as we know it. They take away the Medicare guarantee for seniors," said Rep. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md. "All the risk of increased costs will be borne by seniors."

A Congressional Budget Office analysis released late Tuesday also showed Ryan's budget would leave in place roughly \$500 billion in Medicare cuts that were part of President Barack Obama's new health care law. Despite its huge cuts, Ryan's plan still can't claim a balanced budget by the end of the decade because of promises to not increase taxes

Republicans blasted those cuts in their successful campaign to take back control of the House. A spokesman for Ryan said the savings would be plowed back into Medicare.

But the GOP budget would also repeal Obama's plan to gradually close the Medicare prescription drug coverage gap, known as the "doughnut hole."

Despite its huge cuts, Ryan's plan still can't claim a balanced budget by the end of the decade because of promises to not increase taxes

or change Medicare benefits for people 55 and over. After six years, annual deficits are projected to fall to the \$400 billion range, enough to stabilize the nation's finances and prevent a European-style debt crisis that could force far harsher steps, Ryan said. Under the arcane congressional budget process, the GOP plan is not actual legislation. It does provide a theoretical basis for action, but with Democrats controlling the Senate, the GOP plan serves more to frame the debate heading into next year's election than represent a program with a chance of passing Congress and becoming law.

"For too long, Washington has not been honest with the American people. Washington has been making empty promises to Americans from a government that is going broke," Ryan said. "The debt is projected to grow to truly catastrophic levels in the near future, leading to an economic collapse and a diminished future." The GOP plan would still add \$5 trillion to the deficit over the coming decade, though it promises to reach so-called "primary bal-

ance" by 2015, meaning that the budget would be balanced save for interest payments on already accumulated debt. The national debt now exceeds \$14 trillion and the White House projects this year's deficit at \$1.6 trillion. Democrats said the GOP plan focused its cuts on seniors and the poor to pay for continued tax cuts enjoyed by the wealthiest. "Everyone agrees we must cut spending and tighten our belt, but House Republicans have chosen to do so on the backs of America's seniors, not the oil companies making record profits and getting tens of billions in taxpayer subsidies," said Rep. Steve Israel, D-N.Y.

"Forcing seniors to pay higher health costs is not the right way to balance our books and it's not the only way to do it." Ryan's plan would produce a \$995 billion deficit next year, compared with the \$1.1 trillion projected in Obama's budget proposal. Republicans moved quickly to advance it, scheduling committee action on Wednesday and a vote by the full House for next week. □

The GOP plan stands in stark contrast to Obama's February budget, which attracted criticism for failing to address federal health care programs whose costs are far outpacing other inflation. □

Obama's budget ignored most of the most controversial recommendations of his deficit commission, such as raising the Social Security retirement age and curbing future benefit increases. The GOP plan would fundamentally restructure the nation's biggest health programs in a bold stroke that could make Obama's insurance overhaul look like baby steps. □

Oil slides as China raises interest rates

By CHRIS KAHN
AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK — Oil fell Tuesday after China said it will raise interest rates again to help control inflation. Declining gasoline demand and a rare oil shipment from Libya also pulled crude lower later in the day. Benchmark West Texas Intermediate crude for May delivery gave up 13 cents to settle at \$108.34 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. In London, Brent crude added \$1.23 to settle at \$121.89 per barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

China hiked interest rates for the fourth time since October. Higher interest rates could slow China's economy and shrink its appetite for oil. China trails only the U.S. in oil consumption and should still drive world oil demand this year, though it might not increase consumption as much as previously expected, analysts said. □

"With higher interest rates, it's tougher to raise money," PFG Best analyst Phil Flynn said. "Businesses won't be able to hire as much. People will buy (fewer) cars and they'll drive less."

The Energy Information Ad-



Members of the California Public Utilities Commission listen to testimony in San Bruno, Calif., Tuesday, April 5, 2011. Survivors of a deadly gas pipeline explosion that ravaged a suburban neighborhood near San Francisco testified before California regulators on Tuesday, as officials sought input on how to strengthen crucial safety rules for the industry.

Associated Pres

ministration expects China to account for about 40 percent of increased world demand this year, as it boosts consumption by another 600,000 barrels per day. The U.S. will increase consumption by 130,000 barrels per day, according to the EIA. U.S. oil and gasoline consumption has fallen as prices rise. MasterCard Spending-Pulse said Tuesday that retail gasoline demand slipped for the fifth straight week when compared with the same period last year. SpendingPulse said gasoline purchases fell 3.6 percent to 64.3 million barrels for the week ended April 1. MasterCard analyst Jason Gamel pointed out that demand has been dropping as gasoline prices surged 31.7 cents since the end of February. □

Technology companies lead stocks higher

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Technology companies led stocks higher on Tuesday after Texas Instruments Inc. said it planned on buying National Semiconductor.

National Semiconductor soared 71 percent to \$24.11. Texas Instruments said late Monday that it would acquire the chip maker for \$6.5 billion, or \$25 a share. Texas Instruments rose 1.5 percent.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 2 to 1,335. The Nasdaq composite rose 11, or 0.4 percent, to 2,799. A survey from the Institute for Supply Management reported growth at service companies last month but at a slower rate than analysts were expecting.

Stocks had edged lower in early trading, following most world markets, after China raised a key lending rate and the rating agency Moody's lowered Portugal's credit rating.

Nasdaq OMX Group Inc. announced a rebalancing of the Nasdaq-100 Index next



above \$108 a barrel as unrest in the Middle East continues to raise doubts about future supplies.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 7 points, or 0.1 percent, to 12,406.

KB Home lost 5 percent. The homebuilder reported a first-quarter loss of \$1.49 a share, far more than the 25 cents analysts were expecting.

Later Tuesday, the Federal Reserve will release the minutes from its March 15 meeting. The Fed's announcement after that meeting offered its most optimistic view of the U.S. economy since the recession ended. Fed policymakers said the recovery was on "firmer footing." □



Christian Bale is shown as Batman in a scene from 'The Dark Knight.' Film director Christopher Nolan, who has helmed the two previous Batman films said Tuesday, April 5, 2011, that the next Batman film, 'The Dark Knight Rises,' will be filmed in Pittsburgh.

A third 'Dark Knight' to film in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH – Criminals beware, Batman will be on the beat this summer in Pittsburgh.

Film director Christopher Nolan, who has helmed the two previous Batman films starring Christian Bale as caped crime fighter and his alter ego, Bruce Wayne said Tuesday the Pennsylvania city will host filming for a third film for at least a month.

"Pittsburgh is a beautiful city.

We have been able to find everything we were looking for here and I am excited to spend the summer in Pittsburgh with our final installment of Batman," he said in a statement, adding that he finally settled on the city because of its architecture and diverse sampling of locations.

Mayor Luke Ravenstahl said the decision was "another example of the growing film industry in our community and we will be rolling out the red carpet for them." □

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Govenator Superhero to overlook all civil rights

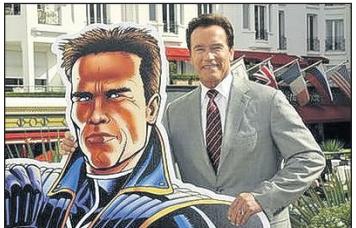
By Mimi Turner

Associated Press

CANNES – After eight years battling California's intractable budget issues, Arnold Schwarzenegger clearly has a wistful yearning for the life of the Governor, the animated superhero he unveiled this week in Cannes.

The notion of being able to bypass bureaucratic red tape and the confines of Homeland Security legislation by donning a solar-powered body suit and clambering aboard a motorcycle that turns into a helicopter is clearly a source of great satisfaction for the actor-turned-governor-turned-actor.

"The reason these heroic characters are always popular is because we are all somewhat limited in our real



Former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger poses during the photo-call of the animated tv series "The Governor" during the yearly MIPTV, the International Television Programs Market, in Cannes, southeastern France

world. Even when I was governor I wished that I could do the things that I wanted to do but I couldn't because of the system, the way it works. Or because of the way the law works," Schwarzenegger said during an interview in his hotel suite. □

In Canada

Princess Diana's dresses to be auctioned

OTTAWA – The blue silk velvet dress Princess Diana wore at a 1985 White House dinner and famously danced in with actor John Travolta will be offered for sale along with other gowns, a Canadian auction house said Tuesday. Waddington's auction house has scheduled a sale June 23 for 14 gowns selected or commissioned by the Princess of Wales between 1985 and 1994 from British designers Catherine Walker, Bruce Oldfield and Zandra Rhodes.

Florida entrepreneur Maureen Rorech Dunkel reportedly paid \$700,000 in 1997 for the silk, satin, velvet and embroidered formal dinner and evening dresses at an auction to raise money for Diana's humanitarian causes.

Following Diana's death, they toured three continents, spent a decade on loan to Kensing-



ton Palace as part of the royal ceremonial dress collection, and were displayed at a Hard Rock hotel and Walt Disney World in Florida.

The collection includes dresses worn by Diana in 1985 at a

gala performance of Les Misérables, during a visit to India in 1992 and at a banquet for Malaysia's king and queen in 1993.

Each dress is expected to fetch about \$200,000. □

'Your Highness' drowns in lowbrow humor

By DAVID GERMAIN

Associated Press

The knights-errant strong emphasize on the errant behind the adventure comedy "Your Highness" spend more time wallowing in medieval filth than weaving clever laughs and engaging action.

Reuniting key players from "Pineapple Express" James Franco, Danny McBride, director David Gordon Green "Your Highness" plays like a Middle Ages role-playing fantasy dreamed up by the giggly stoners of that earlier comedy.

Co-writer McBride and his collaborators apparently set out on a quest to ram as much coarse language and as many adolescent sexual gags into a movie as possible, maybe to cover the fact that the movie doesn't contain much else.

A healthy dose of modern frat-boy crudeness might have been refreshing in this story of two princes out to rescue a damsel from an evil wizard. Sort of "The Princess Bride" as retold in colorful sailor's vernacular.

Crassness overwhelms "Your Highness," though, the vulgar language losing all force by incessant repetition, deaden-



In this film publicity image released by Universal Pictures, from left, Natalie Portman, Danny McBride, James Franco and Zooey Deschanel are shown in a scene from, 'Your Highness'

ing the lingo so that even the occasional witty wisecracks aren't funny.

This is McBride's show, explaining why he has top billing over Franco and co-stars Natalie Portman and Zooey Deschanel.

McBride, who shares screenplay credit with longtime writing partner Ben Best, plays slacker Prince Thadeous, defiler of dwarf queens, partaker of illicit apothecary herbs and all-around palace loser. □

Older brother Fabious (Franco) is heir to the throne and the kingdom's golden boy, newly returned from a heroic quest with ravishing bride-to-be Belladonna (Deschanel) in tow.

After sorcerer Leezar (Justin Theroux) abducts Belladonna as part of his scheme to gain unstoppable powers, Thadeous must reluctantly accompany his brother to fetch her back. □

'Duh, Winning'

Sheen moves to trademark phrases



Charlie Sheen waves to fans as he leaves the Chicago Theatre in Chicago. Promising 'the real story,' the 45-year-old former 'Two and a Half Men' star continued his month-long, 20-city variety show tour, with Sunday's sold-out show in Chicago

By ANTHONY McCARTNEY
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES – Not everyone may have Charlie Sheen's "Adonis DNA" but people may soon be able to wear it, chew on it, drink it and experience it in a videogame. Within two weeks of Sheen's firing from television's top-rated comedy, a company with ties to the actor applied to trademark 22 of his catch-phrases, including "Duh, Winning," "Vatican Assassin," "Tiger Blood" and "Rock Star From Mars." The former "Two and a Half Men" star introduced the world to many of the phrases

during a media blitz in February and early March that Sheen dubbed a "Media Tsunami." That trademark is still up-for-grabs, but the applications point to a possible merchandising blitz.

The phrase, "I'm not bi-polar, I am bi-winning," could end up on cell phones, in comic books, on wallets, purses, stickers and pens and pencils. Other potential items where the phrases may be emblazoned include bras, pens and pencils, pet foods and even alcoholic drinks.

There may even be something for gamblers "Winning" could end up on slot machines.

Sheen's spokesman, Larry Solters, said Tuesday that how the trademarks are used if they are approved will be determined later.

Records show Hyro-gliff, a California company formed last month, filed trademark applications between March 19 and 22. In filings, the company lists its address as the offices of Sheen's attorney, Marty Singer, who is pursuing a \$100 million lawsuit against Warner Bros. and "Men" creator Chuck Lorre.

The company also applied to trademark Sheen's name and signature, as well as his nicknames for his home (Sober Valley Lodge) and his girlfriends (Sheen's Goddesses.)

A pair of applications cover the title of the actor's current stage show, seeking protection for the phrases "Violent Torpedo of Truth" and "Defeat is Not an Option."

The filings do not guarantee that any of the products will ever be made, but if approved they will protect Sheen's name and interests from others who try to make merchandise from his sound bites.

There's already plenty of competition for Sheen-isms. Two other people sought to trademark "Adonis DNA" before Sheen, listing potential uses on clothing and as a nutritional supplement. Thirteen others, including Jimmy Buffett's company, have sought to trademark "Tiger Blood" for use on nutritional and alcoholic drinks.

If Sheen gets the trademarks, it could help fill some of the financial void left by his firing from "Men," which reportedly paid him \$1.8 million per episode.

The actor has already been selling T-shirts and other merchandise on his website using some of the phrases. That would give him an advantage in claiming trademark rights, said attorney Aaron Moss, a partner with the firm Greenberg Glusker, which specializes in intellectual property cases. □

Rocker Vince Neil facing 2 misdemeanors in Vegas

By KEN RITTER

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS – Less than six weeks after being released from jail on a drunken driving charge, Motley Crue singer Vince Neil is facing two new misdemeanor charges in a Las Vegas casino showroom confrontation with an ex-girlfriend.

Neil, 50, is accused of poking his finger into the chest of Alicia Jacobs in a casino comedy club late March 24, and of cursing and pointing or poking at Jacobs and her friends, John Katsilometes and Patricia McCrone.

Neil's lawyer, David Chesnoff, said Neil intends to plead not guilty and fight the battery domestic violence and disorderly conduct charges. He's due May 2 in Las Vegas Justice Court.

"There are two sides to every story, especially when there are issues surrounding relationships," Chesnoff said. "We are looking forward to a trial on the matter."

Neil could face up to six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine on each charge.

Jacobs, 39, a Las Vegas entertainment television reporter, showed police a bruise that she said came from the finger-poke. She said Tuesday she worries about being in the same room with Neil, with



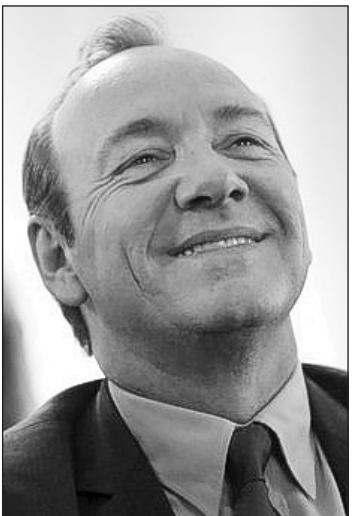
A criminal complaint filed accuses the 50-year-old Vince Neil of poking his finger into the chest of ex-girlfriend Alicia Jacobs in a casino lounge

He definitely sought us out." Neil was freed from Clark County jail Feb. 25 after serving 10 days for driving drunk last June near the Las Vegas Strip.

Neil also was fined \$585 and ordered to serve 15 days on house arrest as part of a plea deal that avoided trial in the case. He didn't contest police accounts that he was driving drunk when he was stopped in his black Lamborghini late last June after leaving the Las Vegas Hilton.

Neil is the front man for a four-member heavy metal band known for bad behavior, hard partying, famous girlfriends and hard-driving hits like "Girls, Girls, Girls" and "Dr. Feelgood," both from the late 1980s. He also owns tattoo shops and two bars in Las Vegas. One is at the Hilton. □

Kevin Spacey calls for arts funding in Congress



Actor Kevin Spacey attends an event on Capitol Hill in Washington held by Americans for the Arts in conjunction with the Congressional Arts Caucus, calling for Congress to preserve arts funding.

BRETT ZONGKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON – Kevin Spacey performed some impromptu "street theater" Tuesday to ask Congress for continued funding of the National Endowment for the Arts amid calls for deep budget cuts.

Spacey was supposed to testify in the House during a hearing that was canceled at the last minute for budget negotiations to avoid a government shutdown. Instead, he performed a version of his testimony for arts supporters.

"Let's pretend," he said, introducing himself to a

packed crowd that included a few lawmakers before reading his prepared testimony.

The Academy Award-winning actor said a theater workshop led by the great actor Jack Lemmon when Spacey was 13 gave him a big boost into theater. When it came time to perform a scene for Lemmon, Spacey spoke in a shaky voice with little self-esteem.

"Now that was a touch of terrific," Lemmon told Spacey.

"He saw something in me a potential that even I hadn't recognized," Spacey said. "That moment shaped me, and it shaped my life."

Spacey who won Oscars

for his roles in "American Beauty" and "The Usual Suspects" and was executive producer of last year's "The Social Network" said he's worried fewer kids will have opportunities in the arts. Funding cuts in the 1990s and similar notions now threaten the grants provided by the arts endowment for local theaters and arts groups, he said.

"To me, it is important just to absolutely embrace arts and culture and the creative industries and what they bring to our nation," Spacey told The Associated Press. "It is the single greatest export we exchange around the world." □

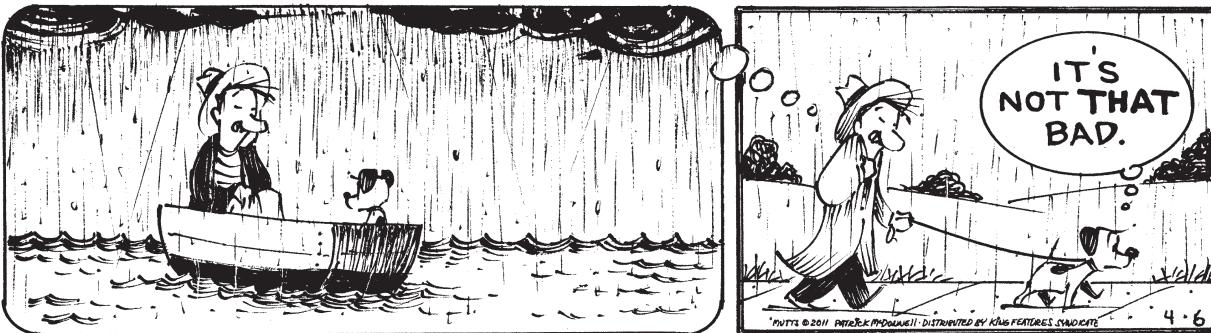
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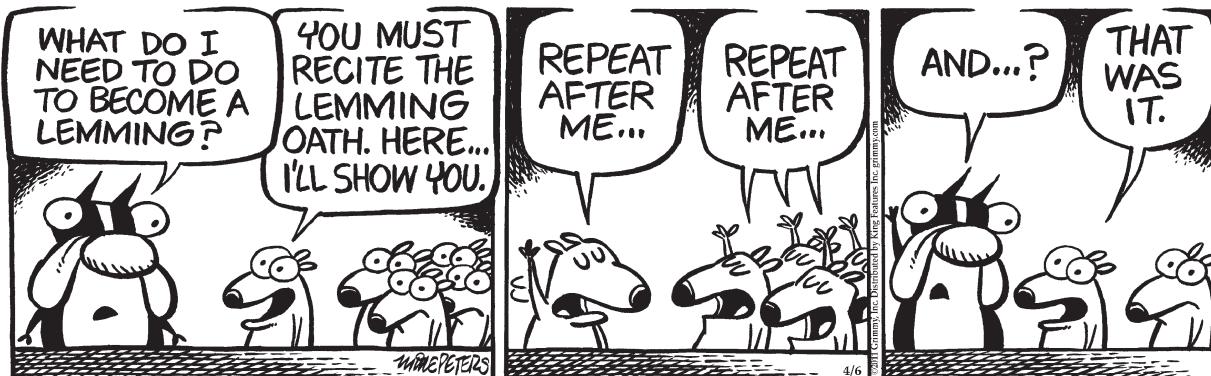
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			9									
		1	8	2				5	7			
5		9						2	3			
1		3						4	2			
9	8								1	6		
6									3			
								8	6			
				6	3	8	5					
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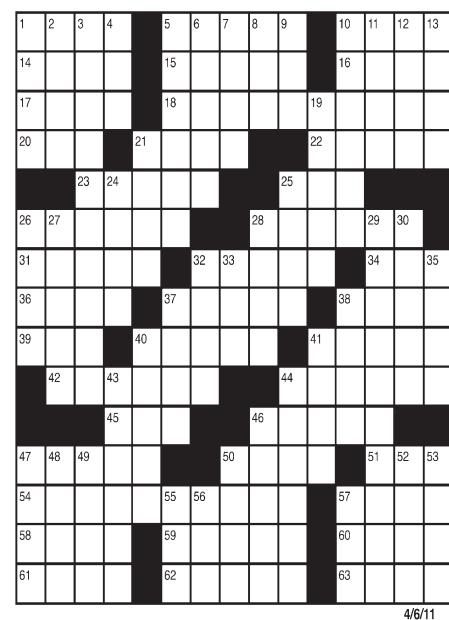
Difficulty Level ★★★

4/6

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

3	1	6	5	2	8	4	9	7				
2	7	4	9	6	1	8	5	3				
9	5	8	4	7	3	1	6	2				
8	6	2	1	9	7	3	4	5				
5	9	7	6	3	4	2	1	8				
1	4	3	2	8	5	6	7	9				
4	3	5	8	1	9	7	2	6				
7	2	1	3	5	6	9	8	4				
6	8	9	7	4	2	5	3	1				

Yesterday's puzzle answer



Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

M	O	M	E	B	B	E	D	P	A	P	A	
E	D	I	T	A	L	O	N	E	E	V	I	L
T	O	N	E	S	E	N	D	S	R	I	L	L
R	E	A	D	I	N	E	S	T	I	D	L	Y
C	O	L	D	E	G	O						
H	I	G	H	L	Y							
I	N	L	E	T	F	A	C	T	S	L	E	I
I	E	A	R	T	I	R	E	S	L	I	E	S
E	R	R	F	A	S	T	S	C	E	A	S	E
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A	U	R										
K	N	O	B									
I	D	O	L									
N	O	E	M									
E	L	A	E									
G	A	L	E									
N	O	E	M									

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41 Cribbage board pieces
43 List of members
44 Knock-knock joke, for one
46 Walking sticks
47 Resound
49 Aware of the duplicity of
50 Daddy
52 Warty amphibian
53 TV show award
55 Mr. Linkletter
56 Buzzing insect
57 "How __ you?"

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WK 2, \$12,995 2BR Pool
WK 4, \$12,995 2BR Pool
Wk 5 \$11,000 1BR Pool*
Wk 6 \$11,000 1BR Pool*
Wk 8 \$9,000 1BR Garden*
Wk 8 \$12,000 1BR Pool*
Wk 9 \$8,500 1BR Garden*
Wk 9 \$12,000 1BR Pool*
Wk 10, \$6,500 1BR Garden
Wk 10, \$9,000 1BR Pool*
Wk 14, \$13,000 2BR Pool*
Wk 24 \$1,860 Studio
Wk 19, 3,15 1BR Garden
Wk 20, \$4,200 1BR Pool
Wk 31 \$1,920 1BR
(Even Yr.)
Wk 32 \$7,200 2BR Pool
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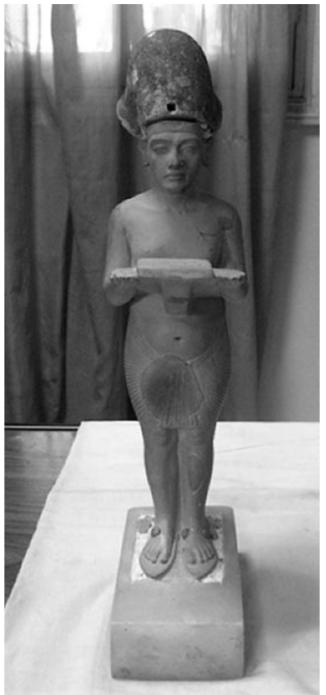
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190745

Teenager finds priceless ancient sculpture of a Pharaoh near a rubbish bin in Cairo



A Cairo teenager found a priceless statue of Pharaoh Akhenaten near a rubbish bin after it had been stolen from the Egyptian Museum during the anti-regime protests. The museum's world renowned collection was burgled and several artefacts went missing last month, including statues of King Tutankhamun and Pharaoh Akhenaten.

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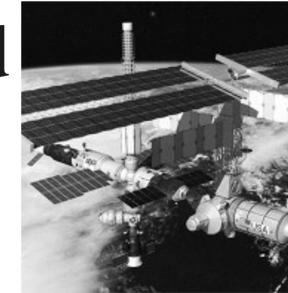
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Junk could threaten space station



The crew of the International Space Station have been warned about the threat of a drifting piece of junk

A small piece of space junk is drifting dangerously close to the International Space Station.

Nasa has ordered the three station astronauts to seek shelter in the Russian Soyuz capsule that is docked at the orbiting complex. A spokesman said there is no time to steer the station out of harm's way.

The debris is from a Chinese satellite that was deliberately destroyed in 2007 as part of a weapons test. It is projected to pass within a couple miles of the space station. An American, an Italian and a Russian are aboard the space station.

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Police station	584-5000
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Jet Blue	Tel: 588-2244
Spirit Airlines	Tel: 582-7117
Suriname Airways	Tel: 582-7896
Tiara Air	Tel: 588-4272
Venezolana	Tel: 583-7674

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Tel: 583-8989

Foundation Amor pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3354 / 586-6976

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Company planning biggest rocket since man on moon

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A high-tech U.S. entrepreneur unveiled plans Tuesday to launch the world's most powerful rocket since man went to the moon.

Space Exploration Technology has already sent the first private rocket and capsule into Earth's orbit as a commercial venture. It is now planning a rocket that could lift twice as much cargo into orbit as the soon-to-be-retired space shuttle. The first launch is slotted for 2013 from California with follow-up launches from Cape Canaveral in Florida.

Space X's new rocket called Falcon Heavy is big enough to send cargo or even people out of Earth's orbit to the moon, an asteroid or Mars. Only the long retired Saturn V rocket that sent men to the moon was bigger.

"This is a rocket of truly huge scale," said Space X president Elon Musk, who also founded PayPal and manufactures electric sports cars.

The Falcon Heavy could put 117,000 pounds into the same orbit as the International Space Station. The space shuttle hauls about 54,000 pounds (25,000 kilograms) into orbit. The old Saturn V could carry

more than 400,000 pounds (181,500 kilograms) of cargo. While the new rocket is designed initially for cargo, it satisfies NASA's current safety requirements for carrying humans and after several launches could carry people too, Musk said. He has said that if NASA does buy rides on commercial rockets, he would be able to fly astronauts to the space station in his smaller Falcon 9 rocket and Dragon capsule within three years.

Potential customers for the new larger rocket are NASA, the military, other governments and satellite makers. Musk said Falcon Heavy will be far cheaper than government or private rockets. Launches are about \$100 million each. He said the Air Force pays two older more established aerospace firms about \$435 million for each of its launches. Over its 40 year design history, the space shuttle program has cost about \$1.5 billion per launch, according to a study by the University of Colorado and an Associated Press analysis of NASA budgets.

Musk, who has a contract to supply the space station with cargo using the smaller Falcon 9, said his pricing is

more fixed than traditional aerospace firms. He joked: "We believe in everyday low prices."

To get costs that low, Musk said he needs to launch about four Falcon Heavy rockets a year but plans on launching about 10. He doesn't have a paying customer for his first launch, but is in negotiations with NASA and other customers for flights after his company proves the new rocket flies.

"It would be great if it works, if it's safe," said Henry Lambright, a professor of public policy and space scholar at Syracuse University. "I don't want to come across as skeptical, but I am." Lambright said companies have often made big claims about private space without doing much. But, he added, Musk has some credibility because of his successful Falcon 9.

If Musk's plans work, it will give President Barack Obama's space policy a needed boost, Lambright said. Obama has been battling some in Congress over his plans to use more private space companies, like Space X, for getting people to orbit with NASA concentrating on missions to send astronauts to new places, such as nearby asteroids.

Several companies are vying to launch private rockets that could replace the shuttle. NASA is now paying Russia to send astronauts to and from the space station on Soyuz spacecraft.

Howard McCurdy, a space policy expert at American University, said of Musk: "If he's not in the lead, he's well positioned for the finish." □



This undated artist rendering provided by Space Exploration Technologies (Space X), shows Space Exploration Technology's new rocket Falcon Heavy. On Tuesday, Elon Musk, CEO and chief rocket designer of Space X unveiled plans to launch the world's most powerful rocket since man went to the moon.

Associated Press

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Humala dice no limitará prensa si llega a la presidencia

PERU (AP) - El candidato izquierdista Ollanta Humala, favorito en las encuestas para ganar los comicios presidenciales del 10 de abril, negó el martes que en un eventual gobierno suyo se coarte la libertad de prensa y regule el trabajo de los medios de comunicación.

Humala respondió así a las suspicacias que ha despertado el hecho que su plan de gobierno señale la necesidad de elaborar una nueva ley de comunicaciones audiovisuales que "establezca un reparto equitativo y plural de los medios entre distintas formas de propiedad... (para) recuperar el carácter de servicio público de los medios masivos de comunicación".

"Estamos hablando por ejemplo de romper el monopolio del estado en la dación de licencias de funcionamiento en medios de comunicación... hoy día se dan casos en que hay mucha corrupción en entrega de licencias de funcionamiento", dijo Humala en entrevista con la emisora Radioprogramas.

Afirmó que su intención también es descentralizar la

entrega de licencias ya que actualmente, dijo, esta labor se concentra en Lima y en el ministerio de Transportes y Comunicaciones, donde criticó existe mucha burocracia. Señaló que los engorrosos trámites burocráticos condujeron a una proliferación de emisoras radiales informales. El candidato recordó su compromiso, expresado públicamente y por escrito hace una semana, de observar un "respeto irrestricto a la libertad de opinión y la libertad de prensa".

El liderazgo de Humala en las preferencias de los peruanos ha desatado los cuestionamientos de sus rivales políticos, que advierten que el ex militar pretende imponer en Perú un régimen similar al implantado por Hugo Chávez en Venezuela.

Humala expresó en 2006, cuando se postuló a la presidencia por primera vez y perdió, sus simpatías y admiración por Chávez.

Actualmente, sin embargo, evita mencionarlo, y evade las preguntas de la prensa cuando se le requiere una opinión personal sobre el gobierno de Chávez. □



Simpatizantes del candidato presidencial Alejandro Toledo, observan en una pantalla gigante como candidato presidencial Ollanta Humala, se expresa durante un debate televisivo en Lima, Perú, el domingo 3 de abril, 2011. (AP Photo/Karel Navarro)

Comando Norte EEUU: por ver si México vencerá narcos

MEXICO (AP) - El comandante del comando norte estadounidense rehusó el martes a predecir si el gobierno mexicano terminará siendo exitoso

en su lucha contra el crimen organizado y admitió durante una audiencia legislativa que la seguridad a lo largo de la frontera estadounidense no es óptima.

El almirante James A. Winnefeld dijo durante una audiencia del comité para fuerzas armadas del Senado que "aún queda por ver" si las autoridades mexicanas se impondrán al crimen organizado, pero agregó que "hay una gran oportunidad" debido a la transformación positiva que las fuerzas armadas mexicanas experimentan para enfrentar a grupos irregulares y a que piden "de manera correcta" ayuda a Estados Unidos.

Al responder a una pregunta del senador republicano John McCain, Winnefeld reconoció que "sería falso" decir que la frontera con México "es completamente segura", pero sostuvo que ha habido gran progreso en los últimos dos años. Estados Unidos apoya con 1.400 millones de dólares los esfuerzos antinarcóticos iniciados por el presidente mexicano Felipe Calderón cuando asumió el poder en 2006, y que han dejado al menos

35.000 muertos. Winnefeld dijo que si bien existe un tráfico intenso de armas desde Estados Unidos, México también recibe una cantidad importante de armamento a través de su frontera sur y mencionó como ejemplo "visores nocturnos muy sofisticados que no sabemos de dónde provienen".

Los carteles del crimen organizado "se están volviendo más y más sofisticados, usan vehículos blindados más resistentes y submarinos completamente sumergibles. Es un reto creciente", agregó.

El general Douglas Fraser, comandante de comando sur, calificó el uso de embarcaciones completamente sumergibles como "un problema en aumento", ya que cuentan hasta cuatro millones de dólares en construir pero pueden lograr un retorno de hasta siete millones de dólares en la inversión con un solo viaje. Indicó que estas embarcaciones usualmente son construidas en las junglas colombianas y viajan hacia las costas de Guatemala y México. No se refirió a un estimado de embarcaciones ni de cargamento. □

Costa Rica:

Científicos visitan frontera con Nicaragua

COSTA RICA (AP) - Científicos y expertos en humedales llegaron el martes a una zona de la frontera para corroborar los daños ambientales que Costa Rica denunció fueron causados por Nicaragua durante trabajos de dragado del río San Juan en medio de protestas de civiles al parecer nicaragüenses.

Cuando la misión arribó en helicóptero al sitio que originó el conflicto entre ambas naciones, sus integrantes fueron acosados por unos 50 civiles portando pancartas y gritando improperios desde botes instalados en el río San Juan. Luego gran parte del grupo atracó en tierra según observaron los periodistas de medios costarricenses e internacionales.

En el grupo también había periodistas supuestamente nicaragüenses.

Los científicos debieron alejarse caminando de la zona y previsiblemente saldrían por otro sector, mientras las autoridades costarricenses suspendieron el ingreso de más prensa y

agilizaron la salida de los reporteros que estaban en el sitio.

Sergio Ugalde, del equipo jurídico de la cancillería costarricense, recordó que a ese lugar no puede ingresar policía nacional, por orden de la Corte Internacional de Justicia (CIJ), por lo que el gobierno no podía garantizar la seguridad de los expertos.

"La misión se está ejecutando, se quedarán durante la tarde y continuarán el trabajo mañana", dijo Ugalde. Agregó que "de obtener pruebas del ingreso ilegal de personas nicaragüenses que trataron de impedir la misión, Costa Rica tomará medidas, sobre todo informar de los hechos a la CIJ porque Costa Rica había solicitado expresamente a Nicaragua impedir ese tipo de acciones".

El vicecanciller Carlos Roverssi, quien llegó hasta Barra del Colorado para seguir el trabajo de los científicos, comentó que "Nicaragua está haciendo de esto un acto político". □



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